

Natural Gas, Washington, DC 20585.  
Phone: 202-586-5600.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Purpose of the Committee:* The purpose of the Unconventional Resources Technology Advisory Committee is to provide advice on development and implementation of programs related to onshore unconventional natural gas and other petroleum resources to the Secretary of Energy; and provide comments and recommendations and priorities for the Department of Energy Annual Plan requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Subtitle J, Section 999.

#### *Tentative Agenda:*

7:30 a.m.–8 a.m. Registration.  
8 a.m.–12 p.m. Welcome & Introductions, Opening Remarks by the Designated Federal Officer, Update Status of the 2007 Program, Overview of 2008 Annual Plan Draft, and Overview of the National Energy Technology Laboratory Complementary Research Program.  
12 p.m.–1 p.m. Lunch.  
1 p.m.–4 p.m. Committee Discussions.  
4 p.m.–4:30 p.m. New Business: Plans for 2008–2010 Federal Advisory Committee.  
4:30 p.m.–5 p.m. Public Comments.  
5 p.m. Adjourn.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. The Designated Federal Officer, the Chairman of the Committee, and a Facilitator will lead the meeting for the orderly conduct of business. If you would like to file a written statement with the Committee, you may do so either before or after the meeting. If you would like to make oral statements regarding any of the items on the agenda, you should contact Elena Melchert or Bill Hochheiser at the address or telephone number listed above. You must make your request for an oral statement at least five business days prior to the meeting, and reasonable provisions will be made to include the presentation on the agenda. Public comment will follow the 10 minute rule.

*Minutes:* The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying within 60 days at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, Room 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on January 7, 2008.

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E8-331 Filed 1-10-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces an open meeting of the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee under the Biomass Research and Development Act of 2000. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that agencies publish these notices in the **Federal Register** to allow for public participation. This notice announces the meeting of the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee.

**DATES AND TIMES:** February 6, 2008 at 12:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. February 7, 2008 at 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Crystal Gateway Marriott—Alexandria Room, 1700 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, Phone: (703) 920-3230.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Valri Lightner, Designated Federal Official for the Committee, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585; (202) 586-0937 or Carolyn Clark at (410) 997-7778 \* 235; E-mail: [cclark@bcs-hq.com](mailto:cclark@bcs-hq.com)

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Purpose of Meeting:* To provide advice and guidance that promotes research and development leading to the production of biobased fuels and biobased products.

*Tentative Agenda:* Agenda will include the following:

- Update on Farm Bill and Energy Act.
- Presentation on Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Biofuels Activities.
- Presentation on the Energy Science, Education and Extension Plan.
- 2008 Awards Update.
- Presentation from the Department of Energy Bioenergy Research Centers.
- Baseline Biomass Work Discussions at USDA and DOE.
- Subcommittee Report Out.
- Discussion: Approve 2008 Committee Work Plan.

*Public Participation:* In keeping with procedures, members of the public are welcome to observe the business of the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee. To attend the meeting and/or to make oral

statements regarding any of the items on the agenda, you should contact Valri Lightner at 202-586-0937; E-mail: [valri.lightner@ee.doe.gov](mailto:valri.lightner@ee.doe.gov) or Carolyn Clark at (410) 997-7778 \* 235; E-mail: [cclark@bcs-hq.com](mailto:cclark@bcs-hq.com). You must make your request for an oral statement at least 5 business days before the meeting. Members of the public will be heard in the order in which they sign up at the beginning of the meeting. Reasonable provision will be made to include the scheduled oral statements on the agenda. The Chair of the Committee will make every effort to hear the views of all interested parties. If you would like to file a written statement with the Committee, you may do so either before or after the meeting. The Chair will conduct the meeting to facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

*Minutes:* The minutes of the meeting will be available for public review and copying at <http://www.biomass.govtools.us>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on January 7, 2008

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E8-364 Filed 1-10-08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

This notice announces a meeting of the Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Wednesday, January 30, 2008. 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.—Open Session; 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.—Lunch; and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Open Session.

**ADDRESSES:** Crowne Plaza Houston North Greenspoint, 425 N. Sam Houston Parkway East, Houston, TX 77060.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elena Melchert or Bill Hochheiser, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Oil and Natural Gas, Washington, DC 20585. Phone: 202-586-5600.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Purpose of the Committee:* The purpose of the Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee is to provide advice on development and implementation of programs related to ultra-deepwater natural gas and other petroleum resources to the Secretary of

Energy; and provide comments and recommendations and priorities for the Department of Energy Annual Plan requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, Subtitle J, Section 999.

*Tentative Agenda:*

7:30 a.m.–8 a.m. Registration

8 a.m.–12 p.m. Welcome & Introductions, Opening Remarks by the Designated Federal Officer, Update Status of the 2007 Program, Overview of 2008 Annual Plan Draft, and Overview of the National Energy Technology Laboratory Complementary Research Program.

12 p.m.–1 p.m. Lunch.

1 p.m.–4 p.m. Committee Discussions.

4 p.m.–4:30 p.m. New Business: Plans for 2008–2010 Federal Advisory Committee.

4:30 p.m.–5 p.m. Public Comments.

5 p.m. Adjourn.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. The Designated Federal Officer, the Chairman of the Committee, and a Facilitator will lead the meeting for the orderly conduct of business. If you would like to file a written statement with the Committee, you may do so either before or after the meeting. If you would like to make oral statements regarding any of the items on the agenda, you should contact Elena Melchert or Bill Hochheiser at the address or telephone number listed above. You must make your request for an oral statement at least five business days prior to the meeting, and reasonable provisions will be made to include the presentation on the agenda. Public comment will follow the 10 minute rule.

*Minutes:* The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying within 60 days at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, Room 1E–190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays.

Issued at Washington, DC, on January 7, 2008.

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E8–363 Filed 1–10–08; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

#### Finding of No Significant Impact; Energy Efficient Performance Requirements for New Federal Commercial and Residential Buildings

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Finding of no significant impact (FONSI).

**SUMMARY:** The Energy Conservation and Production Act (ECPA), 42 U.S.C. 6831, *et seq.* requires the Department of Energy (DOE) to establish by rule building energy efficiency standards for all new Federal buildings. (42 U.S.C. 6834(a)(1)) Section 305 of ECPA, as amended by section 109 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Pub. L. No. 109–58), mandates the development of new Federal building energy efficiency standards based on the American National Standards Institute (ANSI)/American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE)/Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1–2004 (ASHRAE 2004) (for commercial and high-rise multi-family residential buildings) and the International Code Council (ICC) International Energy Conservation Code 2004 Supplement (2004 IECC) (for low-rise residential buildings). (42 U.S.C. 6834(a)(2)) Federal buildings are required to reduce energy consumption by at least 30 percent, if life cycle cost-effective, over these baseline standards. (42 U.S.C. 6834(a)(3)(A)(i)) Based on an Environmental Assessment (EA), DOE/EA–1463, DOE has determined that the adoption of the new energy efficiency standards “Energy Efficiency Standard for New Federal Commercial and High-Rise Multi-Family Residential Buildings” (10 CFR Part 433) and “Energy Efficiency Standard for New Federal Low-Rise Residential Buildings” (10 CFR Part 435) would not be a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. Therefore, an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required, and the Department is issuing this finding of no significant impact (FONSI).

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the EA and the proposed rule are available from: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of the Federal Energy Management Program,

Forrestal Building, Mail Station EE–2L, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585–0121, (202) 586–5772.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cyrus Nasser, Office of the Federal Energy Management Program (EE–2L), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585–0121, (202) 586–9138.

*For Further Information Regarding the DOE NEPA Process, Contact:* Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH–42), 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585–0119, (202) 586–4600, or leave a message at (800) 472–2756.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### *Description of the Proposed Action:*

The action is the establishment of revised energy efficiency requirements for new Federal commercial and multi-family high rise residential buildings and low-rise residential buildings.

*Environmental Impacts:* The EA evaluates the environmental impacts of five alternatives to the new standards for the design and construction of new Federal buildings. Each alternative action is presented, and the energy efficiency requirements (and hence the environmental impacts) of each alternative are compared to what would be expected to happen if no new standard were adopted, i.e., the “no action” alternative. In this EA, the “no action” alternative is the standard level under the required efficiency levels of the standards prior to amendment. The EA also examined the projected effects of standard levels mandated under section 305 of ECPA without any additional improvement in energy efficiency, i.e., the level of energy efficiency achieved under ANSI/ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1–2004 (for commercial and high-rise multi-family residential buildings) or the 2004 IECC (for low-rise residential buildings). Levels of 10 percent, 20 percent, 30 percent, 40 percent and 50 percent energy savings over the minimum requirements are examined as alternatives that might be achieved by agencies attempting to meet the “at least 30 percent savings, if life-cycle cost-effective” provision of the requirements.

The EA also examines the environmental impacts of the final rule on building habitability (indoor environment, focusing on possible alterations to indoor air quality) and the outdoor environment (emissions of criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases). The EA finds that implementation of the final rule would