

Dam and Lake, all owned and operated by Alabama Power Company (APC). Also in Alabama, are three dams and reservoirs owned and operated by the Corps including Jones Bluff Dam/Woodruff Lake, Millers Ferry Dam/William "Bill" Dannelly Lake and Claiborne Dam and Lake. The authorized project purposes at the Corps lakes include water supply, flood control, hydropower, navigation, fish and wildlife conservation, and recreation.

The new manuals will eventually replace the current manuals and will address the basin-wide management of those water resources. Due to the flood control operational responsibilities of the Corps, some or all of the manuals for some of the APC reservoirs will be updated.

Public participation throughout the water control plan revision process is essential. The Corps invites full public participation at all stages to promote open communication and better decision making. All persons, stakeholders, and organizations that have an interest in water-related resources in the ACT basin, including minority, low-income, disadvantaged and Native American groups, are urged to participate in this NEPA environmental analysis process. Assistance will be provided upon request to anyone having difficulty understanding how to participate. Dates and locations for public scoping meetings will be announced by future publication in the **Federal Register** and in the local news media. Tentative dates for publication of the draft water control manuals and EIS and other opportunities for public involvement will also be announced at that time. Public comments are welcomed anytime throughout the NEPA process.

**Cooperating Agencies.** The lead responsibility for this action rests with the Corps. The Corps intends to coordinate and/or consult with an interagency team of Federal and State agencies during scoping and preparation of the draft EIS. A decision will be made during the scoping process whether other agencies will serve in an official role as cooperating agencies.

**Scoping.** The Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa Rivers (ACT)/Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint Rivers (ACF) Comprehensive Study from 1990 to 1997 and ACF Compact negotiations from 1997 to 2004 involved the States (Alabama, Florida and Georgia), stakeholders and the public in identifying areas of concern; collecting and developing water resource, environmental, and socioeconomic data; and developing tools to assist in

decisions affecting water resources within the two basins. Development of the updated water control manuals and scoping for this EIS will continue to build upon the knowledge and information developed during the Comprehensive Study and subsequent Compact negotiations. Scoping meetings with agencies and stakeholder groups will be scheduled to identify any significant issues and data gaps, focus on the alternatives to be evaluated, and to identify any appropriate updated tools to assist in evaluation of alternatives and analysis of impacts.

**Byron G. Jorns,**

*Colonel, Corps of Engineers, District Commander.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

#### **Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Access Between the Laurelwood Housing Area and an Adjacent State Primary or Secondary Road at Naval Weapons Station Earle, Colts Neck, NJ and To Announce a Public Scoping Meeting**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section (102)(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and the regulations implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy (Navy) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental consequences of providing access between the Laurelwood housing area at Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle and an adjacent state primary or secondary road. The requirement for this access in 2010 is a stipulation within the lease agreement between the Navy and the developer of Laurelwood. This developer may construct necessary road improvements to obtain access and rent any housing units to the general public through the year 2040.

**Dates and Addresses:** Public scoping will be conducted in the form of an open-house style meeting to be held in Monmouth County, New Jersey to receive written comments on environmental concerns that should be addressed in the EIS. The public scoping meeting will be held on November 27, 2007, from 4 p.m. and 8

p.m., at Brookdale Community College, 765 Newman Springs Road, Lincroft, New Jersey.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Patrick Fisher, Naval Weapons Station Earle, Public Affairs Officer, 201 Highway 34 South, Building C-2, Colts Neck, New Jersey 07722; telephone: 732-866-2171; e-mail: [patrick.l.fisher@navy.mil](mailto:patrick.l.fisher@navy.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The proposed action is to provide unimpeded access in the year 2010 to the developer of the Laurelwood housing area across a portion of mainside NWS Earle connecting the Laurelwood housing area with a state primary or secondary road. The requirement for this access in 2010 is part of an existing lease agreement between the Navy and the developer of Laurelwood.

In 1988 the Navy contracted with a developer to construct, own, and operate 300 military family housing units at NWS Earle, now known as the Laurelwood housing area. A 52-year lease agreement for the underlying land was executed between the Navy and the developer which included an in-lease and out-lease period. During the in-lease period, which runs from 1988 until 2010, the Navy guarantees rent payments to the developer for the occupancy of all 300 Laurelwood units. Only military and their dependents are allowed to occupy these housing units during the in-lease period. During the out-lease period of 2010 until 2040 the developer may rent the units to the general public. However, the lease requires that the Navy provide "reasonable access" between the Laurelwood housing area and an adjacent State, primary, or secondary road. The lease agreement defines reasonable access as being on a paved road, constructed, operated, and maintained by the developer at its own cost. The Navy may satisfy this obligation by either (a) providing unimpeded access along existing roads of the installation or (b) providing an easement for alternate access adequate to allow the developer to construct a road from an adjacent primary or secondary road to Laurelwood that will provide unimpeded access. Road construction would be subject to Federal, State and local laws and regulations. While the developer must pay for construction of a new road and necessary improvements, the Navy is required to finance the construction of any road enhancements necessary to meet their security or operational requirements (e.g., security fencing, gates). In addition, the Navy is required

to obtain all necessary permits for road construction. In 2040, the lease agreement expires and the developer is obligated to demolish the 300 housing units.

During development of the EIS, the Navy will evaluate the no-action alternative and several alternative road alignments which will provide unimpeded access from the Laurelwood housing area to a State primary or secondary road without adversely impacting NWS Earle security or operational/mission capability.

In addition to the natural and cultural environment located along the various road alignments, the Navy will evaluate the potential impacts to local school systems, base security, community services, and traffic impacts at proposed intersections to state roads. Since NWS Earle was acquired under exclusive federal jurisdiction, police, fire, and rescue services would continue to be provided by the Navy under the proposed action.

The Navy is initiating the scoping process to identify community concerns and local issues to be addressed in this EIS. Navy representatives will be available at the public open-house scoping meeting to receive comments from the public regarding issues of concern. Federal, State, and local agencies and interested individuals are encouraged to take this opportunity to identify concerns that should be addressed during the preparation of the EIS. Agencies and the public are also invited and encouraged to provide written comments on scoping issues in addition to, or in lieu of, comments provided at the open-house meeting. Written comments must be postmarked by December 14, 2007 and should be mailed to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic, Attn: Code EV21LR, 6506 Hampton Boulevard, Norfolk, Virginia 23508. Comments can also be submitted no later than December 14, 2007 via the project Web site: <http://www.laurelwoodeis.com>.

Dated: October 31, 2007.

**T.M. Cruz,**

*Lieutenant, Judge Advocate General's Corps,  
U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Finding of No Significant Impact: Energy Conservation Program for Commercial Equipment, Distribution Transformers

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

**ACTION:** Finding of No Significant Impact for Energy Conservation Standards for distribution transformers.

**SUMMARY:** The Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended, prescribes energy conservation standards for certain consumer products and commercial equipment. Part C of Title III (42 U.S.C. 6311-6317) establishes a program for "Certain Industrial Equipment," which includes distribution transformers. The Department of Energy (DOE) is directed to administer an energy conservation program for this product. Based on an Environmental Assessment (EA), DOE/EA-1565, which is published as part of the Distribution Transformer Technical Support Document (TSD), DOE has determined that the adoption of energy efficiency for liquid-immersed distribution transformers and medium-voltage dry-type distribution transformers, as adopted by the Final Rule entitled the "Energy Conservation Program for Commercial Equipment: Distribution Transformers Energy Conservation Standards; Final Rule," published on October 12, 2007 (72 FR 58190), would not be a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). 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 TSD, as well as the complete docket for the distribution transformer rulemaking can be reviewed at the U.S. Department of Energy, Resource Room of the Building Technologies Program, 950 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Washington, DC (202) 586-2945, between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Please call Ms. Brenda Edwards-Jones at the above telephone number for additional information regarding visiting the Resource Room. You may also obtain copies of certain previous rulemaking documents from this proceeding (i.e., Framework Document, advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANOPR), notice of proposed rulemaking (NOPR or proposed rule)), draft analyses, public

meeting materials, and related test procedure documents from the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Web site at [http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance\\_standards/commercial/distribution\\_transformers.html](http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/appliance_standards/commercial/distribution_transformers.html).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Antonio Bouza, Project Manager, Energy Conservation Standards for Distribution Transformers, Docket No. EE-RM/STD-00-550, U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Building Technologies Program, EE-2J, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 586-4563, e-mail:

[Antonio.Bouza@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Antonio.Bouza@ee.doe.gov). For further information regarding the DOE NEPA process contact: Ms. Othalene Lawrence, EERE NEPA Compliance Officer (EE-3C), U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0119, (202) 586-8596.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Description of the Final Rule:* The final rule published on October 12, 2007 established an energy conservation standard for liquid-immersed distribution transformers and medium-voltage dry-type distribution transformers. 72 FR 58190.

*Environmental Impacts:* The EA and TSD evaluate the environmental impacts of a range of energy conservation standards for distribution transformers. The results are presented for each TSL that DOE considered in this rulemaking. Each TSL was considered as an alternative action, and 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.

The main environmental impact is decreased emissions from fossil-fueled electricity generation. All of the minimum efficiency levels that were considered for this commercial product would result in decreased electricity use and, therefore, a reduction in power plant emissions. The adopted energy conservation standard will generally decrease air pollution by decreasing future energy demand. The environmental analysis considers carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), mercury (Hg) and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>).

The results of the analysis show an estimated cumulative reduction of 250 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions for liquid-immersed and medium-voltage dry-type distribution transformers between 2010 and 2038.