

Dated: July 25, 2007.

Jennifer Spaeth

Director, Office of Federal Advisory
Committee Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health

Center for Scientific Review; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. Appendix 2), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

Name of Committee: Center for Scientific Review Special Emphasis Panel, Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience.

Date: August 3, 2007.

Time: 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Agenda: To Review and Evaluate Grant Applications.

Place: National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892, (Telephone Conference Call).

Contact Person: Jonathan K. Ivins, PhD, Scientific Review Administrator, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Room 4040A, MSC 7806, Bethesda, MD 20892, (301) 594-1245, ivinsj@csr.nih.gov.

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting to the time limitations imposed by the review and funding cycle.

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.306, Comparative Medicine; 93.333, Clinical Research, 93.306, 93.333, 93.337, 93.393-93.396, 93.837-93.844, 93.846-93.878, 93.892, 93.893. National Institutes of Health, HHS).

Dated: July 24, 2007.

Jennifer Spaeth,

Director, Office of Federal Advisory
Committee Policy.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Science and Technology Directorate; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Science and Technology Directorate (Office of National Laboratories within the Office of Research), DHS.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF).

SUMMARY: DHS announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate reasonable siting alternatives for the construction and operation of the proposed NBAF. DHS invites individuals, organizations, and agencies to present oral or written comments concerning the scope of the EIS, including the environmental issues and alternatives that the EIS should address.

DATES: The public scoping period starts with the publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register** and will continue until September 27, 2007. DHS will consider all comments received, postmarked, or emailed by that date in defining the scope of the EIS. DHS also intends to hold public meetings during this comment period to provide the public with added opportunities to present comments, ask questions, and discuss concerns regarding the EIS with DHS officials.

All public meetings are listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

DHS will publish additional notices regarding the dates, times, and locations of the public meetings in local newspapers in advance of the scheduled meetings. Any necessary changes will be announced in the local media and on the NBAF Web site (<http://www.dhs.gov/nbaf>).

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by mail, online, fax, or voice mail:

U.S. Mail: Department of Homeland Security; Science and Technology Directorate; James V. Johnson; Mail Stop #2100; 245 Murray Lane SW., Building 410; Washington, DC 20528; Online: <http://www.dhs.gov/nbaf> (click on Public Involvement); Toll-free fax: 1-866-508-NBAF (6223); or Toll-free voice mail: 1-866-501-NBAF (6223).

Updates and other information will be posted to the NBAF EIS Web page at: <http://www.dhs.gov/nbaf>.

In addition to providing comments at the public meetings, all interested parties are invited to record their comments, ask questions concerning the

EIS, or request to be placed on the EIS mailing or document distribution list by leaving a message on the EIS Hotline at (toll free) 1-866-501-NBAF (6223). The Hotline will have instructions on how to record comments and requests.

Additional information on public participation opportunities is included in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

All interested persons and organizations including minority, low income, disadvantaged, and Native American groups are urged to participate in this environmental impact review process. Assistance will be provided upon request to anyone with special needs to facilitate their participation in the process.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Consultations between DHS and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) on a coordinated biodefense strategy called for in Homeland Security Presidential Directives 9 and 10 have revealed a gap that must be filled by an integrated research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) infrastructure for combating bio and agro terrorism threats. DHS S&T is responsible for filling this gap in a safe, secure, and environmentally sound manner. The proposed NBAF is envisioned to provide the nation with the first integrated agricultural, zoonotic disease, and public health RDT&E facility with the capability to address threats from human pathogens, high consequence zoonotic disease agents, and foreign animal diseases.

DHS intends to select a single site for the construction of the NBAF. A competitive selection process to identify and evaluate potential candidate sites, other than Plum Island, for the NBAF was recently completed. This process was initiated by issuance of a notice of request for Expressions of Interest (EOI), on January 19, 2006 (71 **Federal Register** 3107-3109). DHS has determined that the following "Site Alternatives" are reasonable alternative sites for the construction of the NBAF:

Manhattan Campus Site Manhattan, Kansas: This alternative would locate the NBAF within what is identified as the Kansas City Health Corridor on the Kansas State University Campus.

South Milledge Avenue Site, Athens, Georgia: This alternative would locate the NBAF on the campus of the University of Georgia Whitehall Farm.

Texas Research Park Site, San Antonio, Texas: This alternative would locate the NBAF on the land of the Texas Research Park in San Antonio Texas.

Umstead Research Farm Site, Butner, North Carolina: This alternative would