

submit a completed nomination form with a letter of reference that describes the nominee's qualifications to serve on the Science Technical Advisory Panel. The professional discipline the nominee would like to represent should be identified in the letter of nomination and in the nomination form. Nominees may be scientists and technical experts from diverse professions and interests, including the oil and gas industry, subsistence users, Alaska Native entities, conservation organizations, and academia. Nominees selected to serve on the Science Technical Advisory Panel will serve only in their professional capacity and will not serve to represent any group, agency or entity with whom they may be affiliated. The Executive Director shall collect the nomination forms and letters of reference and distribute them to the Oversight Group of the North Slope Science Initiative. The Oversight Group will submit their recommendations through the Bureau of Land Management to the Secretary of the Interior who has the responsibility for making the appointments. Members of the Science Technical Advisory Panel will serve without monetary compensation. Members will be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses at the current rate for Government employees.

Certification

I hereby certify that the establishment of the Science Technical Advisory Panel for the North Slope Science Initiative is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the Secretary of the Interior, and in compliance with Section 348, Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 109-58).

Thomas P. Lonnie,
State Director.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

Notice of Availability of the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Designation of Energy Corridors on Federal Land in the 11 Western States, Including Proposed Amendments to Selected Land Use Plans LLW0350000.L1430000.PN0000

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Department of Energy (DOE) as co-lead agencies, and the U.S. Forest Service (FS) of the Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Department of Defense (DOD), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) of the Department of the Interior (DOI) as cooperating Federal Agencies (the Agencies) announce the availability of the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Designation of Energy Corridors on Federal Land in the 11 Western States (Final PEIS) (DOE/EIS-0386) that also proposes to amend 138 land use plans.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the California Energy Commission (CEC), the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the State of Wyoming, and the Lincoln, Sweetwater, and Uinta counties and conservation districts in Wyoming are also cooperating agencies. The Department of Commerce (DOC) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) are consulting agencies.

The Agencies prepared the Final PEIS pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*; the Council on Environmental Quality NEPA regulations, 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508; the DOE NEPA regulations, 10 CFR Part 1021; Compliance with Floodplain and Wetland Environmental Review Requirements, 10 CFR Part 1022; the BLM planning regulations, 43 CFR subpart 1610; and applicable FS planning regulations.

Section 368 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPA 2005), Public Law 109-58, directs the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, and the Interior, in consultation with FERC, states, tribal or local units of governments, as appropriate; affected utility industries; and other interested persons to designate, under their respective authorities, corridors on Federal land in the 11 Western States for oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines as well as electricity transmission and distribution facilities; perform any environmental reviews that may be required to complete the designation of such corridors; and incorporate the designated corridors into relevant agency land use and resource management plans or equivalent plans.

The 11 Western States are Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

DATES: Copies of the Final PEIS were distributed beginning November 20, 2008 to Members of Congress, American Indian Tribal governments, state and

local governments, other Federal agencies, and organizations and individuals who are known to have an interest in the Final PEIS.

The DOI, USDA and DOD would issue separate Records of Decision (ROD) to amend selected land use plans for the purpose of designating EPA 2005 Section 368 corridors no sooner than 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the Notice of Availability of the Final PEIS. BLM's ROD must also await a 60-day Governors' Consistency Review in accordance with 43 CFR 1610.3-2.

ADDRESSES: Send written requests for compact discs (CD) or printed copies of the Final PEIS to: West-wide Energy Corridor Final PEIS, Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 S. Cass Avenue, Bldg. 900, Mailstop 4, Argonne, IL 60439; by toll-free fax: 1-866-542-5904; or order online at <http://corridoreis.anl.gov>.

The Final PEIS consists of a stand alone Summary, the PEIS Chapters (Volume 1-648 pages), the Appendices (Volume 2-564 pages), Maps (Volume 3-148 pages), and Comments and Responses (Volume 4-174 pages). The Final PEIS Volume 3 map atlas is printed on 11x17-inch paper. The CD version of the Final PEIS includes the map atlas in PDF format. The most powerful and flexible version of the map data is available on the project Web site (<http://corridoreis.anl.gov>). The Web site maps are available within a geographic information system (GIS) database that allows users to merge, enlarge, and view multiple map-data layers. Software and instructions to use the GIS data are user-friendly and available for free download on the Web site. The Final PEIS is available on the project Web site at <http://corridoreis.anl.gov>, on the DOE NEPA Web site at <http://www.gc.energy.gov/pepa>, and at the following reading room locations:

- The BLM state and field offices and FS regional offices in the 11 Western States, and
- The DOE Freedom of Information Act Office and Reading Room, Room 1E-190, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585; phone 202-586-3142.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the Final PEIS, please contact Kate Winthrop, BLM, WO-350, MS 1000 LS, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240; by phone: 202-452-5051; or by e-mail: kate_winthrop@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Agencies prepared the Final PEIS to implement Section 368 of EPA 2005 to designate preferred locations for future

oil, gas, and hydrogen pipelines as well as electricity transmission and distribution facilities and to incorporate the designated corridors into the relevant agencies' land use and resource management plans or equivalent plans. Section 368 directs the Agencies to take into account the need for upgraded and new infrastructure and to take actions to improve reliability, relieve congestion, and enhance the capability of the national grid to deliver energy. This action only pertains to the designation of corridors for potential facilities on Federal lands located within the 11 Western States.

In addition, Section 368 is intended to improve coordination among the Agencies to increase the efficiency of using designated corridors. In many areas of the United States, including the West, the infrastructure required to deliver energy has not always kept pace with growth in energy demand. The Agencies hope to improve the delivery of energy, while enhancing the electric transmission grid for the future, by establishing a coordinated network of Federal energy corridors on Federal lands in the West. The Final PEIS analyzes the environmental impacts of designating Federal energy corridors in 11 Western States and incorporating those designations into relevant agency land use and resource management plans or equivalent plans.

The Agencies are preparing this PEIS at the designation stage because they believe it is an appropriate time to examine environmental concerns at the programmatic level. Impacts that affect the quality of the environment will only occur after specific proposals are submitted, analyzed through the NEPA process, and approved by the land

management agency. The Agencies expect that the PEIS will greatly assist subsequent site-specific analyses for individual project proposals by allowing the Agencies to incorporate this PEIS into those later analyses.

The Final PEIS analyzes a No Action Alternative and a Proposed Action. Under the No Action Alternative, Federal energy corridors would not be designated on Federal lands in the 11 Western States. The siting and development of future energy transport projects would continue under current agency procedures for granting rights-of-way (ROW). Under the Proposed Action, the Agencies would designate and incorporate identified Federal energy corridors that would consist of existing, locally designated Federal energy corridors together with additional, newly designated energy corridors located on Federal land into relevant land use and resource management plans. The Proposed Action is the Agencies' preferred alternative.

These energy corridors would comprise a comprehensive, coordinated network of preferred locations for future energy projects that could be developed to satisfy demand for energy. Under the Proposed Action, approximately 6,120 miles of Federal energy corridors would be designated on Federal lands within the 11 Western States as the preferred location for oil, natural gas, and hydrogen pipelines as well as electricity transmission and distribution lines. Environmental, engineering, and land use screening criteria were applied during the development of the Proposed Action to reduce potential environmental and land use conflicts. The energy corridors would typically be 3,500 feet wide, although the width may

vary in certain areas due to environmental, topographic, or management constraints. The DOI, USDA and DOD would amend their respective land use or equivalent plans to incorporate the designated energy corridors; the amendments would be effective upon signing of the relevant agency's ROD.

The policies and Interagency Operating Procedures (IOPs) developed under the Proposed Action would establish minimum requirements for the management of future individual energy transport projects. The proposed policies identify management objectives and address the administration of energy transport development activities. The proposed IOPs identify required management procedures that would need to be incorporated into future project-specific energy transport development proposals. The Proposed Action would amend a total of 138 (93 BLM, 38 FS, 4 DOD, and 3 NPS) land use and equivalent plans in the 11 Western States. The proposed land use plan amendments would incorporate the programmatic energy transport development policies and IOPs set forth in the Final PEIS. The proposed land use plan amendments would facilitate preparation and consideration of future energy transport development ROW applications on DOI-, USDA-, and DOD-administered lands in these states, but would not eliminate the need for site-specific NEPA analysis of individual development proposals.

The Agencies propose to amend the following land use management plans, itemized in appendix A of the Final PEIS:

LAND USE OR EQUIVALENT PLANS PROPOSED FOR AMENDMENT TO INCORPORATE EPACT SECTION 368 ENERGY CORRIDORS ON FEDERAL LANDS IN THE 11 WESTERN STATES

	State land use plan	Agency office(s)
Arizona	Apache-Sitgreaves NS LRMP	FS, Apache-Sitgreaves NF
	Arizona Strip RMP	BLM, Arizona Strip FO
	Coronado NF LRMP	FS, Coronado NF
	Glen Canyon NRA GMP	NPS, Glen Canyon NRA
	Kaibab NF LRMP	FS, Kaibab NF
	Kingman RMP	BLM, Kingman FO
	Lake Havasu RMP	BLM, Lake Havasu FO
	Lower Gila North MFP	BLM, Hassayampa FO
	Lower Gila South RMP	BLM, Hassayampa FO
	Lower Sonoran RMP	BLM, Lower Sonoran FO
	Phoenix RMP	BLM, Hassayampa FO
	Prescott NF LRMP	FS, Prescott NF
	Safford RMP	BLM, Safford FO
	Tonto NF LRMP	FS, Tonto NF
	Yuma Proving Ground INRMP	DOD, U.S. Army, Yuma Proving Ground
Yuma RMP	BLM, Yuma FO	
California	Alturas RMP	BLM, Alturas FO
	Angeles NF LRMP	FS, Angeles NF
	Bishop RMP	BLM, Bishop FO

LAND USE OR EQUIVALENT PLANS PROPOSED FOR AMENDMENT TO INCORPORATE EPACT SECTION 368 ENERGY CORRIDORS ON FEDERAL LANDS IN THE 11 WESTERN STATES—Continued

	State land use plan	Agency office(s)
	California Desert Conservation Area Plan	BLM, Barstow FO, El Centro FO, Lake Havasu FO, Needles FO, Ridgecrest FO, Palm Springs-South Coast FO
	China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station INRMP	DOD, U.S. Navy, China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station
	Cleveland NF LRMP	FS, Cleveland NF
	Eagle Lake RMP	BLM, Eagle Lake FO
	Inyo NF LRMP	FS, Inyo NF
	Klamath NF LRMP	FS, Klamath NF
	Lassen NF LRMP	FS, Lassen NF
	Modoc NF LRMP	FS, Modoc NF
	Redding RMP	BLM, Redding FO
	San Bernadino NF LRMP	FS, San Bernadino NF
	Shasta-Trinity NF LRMP	FS, Shasta-Trinity NF
	Sierra RMP	BLM, Folsom FO
	Six Rivers NF LRMP	FS, Six Rivers NF
	South Coast RMP	BLM, Palm Springs-South Coast FO
	Surprise RMP	BLM, Surprise FO
	Tahoe NF LRMP	FS, Tahoe NF
	Toiyabe NF LRMP	FS, Toiyabe NF
Colorado	Arapaho-Roosevelt NF and Pawnee NG LRMP	FS, Arapaho-Roosevelt NF and Pawnee NG
	Curecanti NCA GMP	NPS, Curecanti NRA
	Glenwood Springs RMP	BLM, Glenwood Springs FO
	Grand Junction RMP	BLM, Grand Junction FO
	Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison NF LRMP	FS, Grand Mesa-Uncompahgre-Gunnison NF
	Gunnison RMP	BLM, Gunnison FO
	Kremmling RMP	BLM, Kremmling FO
	Little Snake RMP	BLM, Little Snake FO
	Routt NF LRMP	FS, Routt-Medicine Bow NF, Thunder Basin NG
	Royal Gorge RMP	BLM, Royal Gorge FO
	Pike-San Isabel NF LRMP	FS, Pike-San Isabel NF
	San Juan NF LRMP	FS, San Juan NF
	San Juan/San Miguel RMP	BLM, Dolores FO, Uncompahgre FO
	Uncompahgre Basin RMP	BLM, Uncompahgre FO
	White River RMP	BLM, White River FO
Idaho	Big Desert MFP	BLM, Upper Snake FO
	Bruneau MFP	BLM, Bruneau FO
	Caribou-Targhee NF LRMP	FS, Caribou-Targhee NF
	Cassia RMP	BLM, Burley FO
	Coeur d'Alene RMP	BLM, Coeur d'Alene FO
	Idaho Panhandle NF LRMP	FS, Idaho Panhandle NF
	Jarbridge RMP	BLM, Bruneau FO, Four Rivers FO, Jarbridge FO
	Kuna MFP	BLM, Four Rivers FO
	Medicine Lodge RMP	BLM, Upper Snake FO
	Monument RMP	BLM, Burley FO, Shoshone FO
	Pocatello RMP	BLM, Pocatello FO
	Owyhee RMP	BLM, Four Rivers FO, Owyhee FO
	Twin Falls MFP	BLM, Burley FO
Montana	Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF LRMP	FS, Beaverhead-Deerlodge NF
	Billings RMP	BLM, Billings FO
	Dillon RMP	BLM, Dillon FO
	Garnet RMP	BLM, Missoula FO
	Headwaters RMP	BLM, Butte FO
	Lolo NF LRMP	FS, Lolo NF
Nevada	Black Rock-High Rock Emigrant Trail NCA RMP	BLM, Winnemucca FO
	Carson City FO Consolidated RMP	BLM, Carson City FO
	Elko RMP	BLM, Elko FO
	Ely RMP	BLM, Ely FO
	Hawthorne Army Depot INRMP	DOD, U.S. Army, Hawthorne AD
	Humboldt NF LRMP	FS, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF
	Lake Mead NRA GMP	NPS, Lake Mead NRA
	Las Vegas RMP	BLM, Las Vegas FO
	Nellis AFB Plan 126-4 INRMP	DOD, U.S. Air Force, Nellis AFB
	Paradise-Denio MFP	BLM, Winnemucca FO
	Sonoma Gerlach MFP	BLM, Winnemucca FO
	Surprise RMP	BLM, Surprise FO
	Toiyabe NF LRMP	FS, Humboldt-Toiyabe NF

LAND USE OR EQUIVALENT PLANS PROPOSED FOR AMENDMENT TO INCORPORATE EPACT SECTION 368 ENERGY
CORRIDORS ON FEDERAL LANDS IN THE 11 WESTERN STATES—Continued

	State land use plan	Agency office(s)
New Mexico	Tonopah RMP	BLM, Battle Mountain FO
	Wells RMP	BLM, Elko FO
	Carlsbad RMP	BLM, Carlsbad FO
	Farmington RMP	BLM, Farmington FO
	Mimbres RMP	BLM, Las Cruces DO
	Rio Puerco RMP	BLM, Rio Puerco FO
	Roswell RMP	BLM, Roswell FO
Oregon	Socorro RMP	BLM, Socorro FO
	White Sands RMP	BLM, Las Cruces DO
	Andrews-Steens RMP	BLM, Andrews FO
	Baker RMP	BLM, Baker FO
	Brothers-Lapine RMP	BLM, Central Oregon FO, Deschutes FO
	Deschutes NF LRMP	FS, Deschutes NF
	Eugene RMP	BLM, Upper Willamette FO
	Fremont NF LRMP	FS, Fremont-Winema NFs
	Klamath Falls RMP	BLM, Klamath Falls FO
	Lakeview RMP	BLM, Lakeview FO
	Medford RMP	BLM, Ashland FO, Butte Falls FO, Glendale FO
	Mt. Hood NF LRMP	FS, Mt. Hood NF
	Roseburg RMP	BLM, South River FO, Swiftwater FO, Upper Willamette FO
Utah	Salem RMP	BLM, Cascades FO, Tillamook FO
	Southeastern Oregon RMP	BLM, Jordan FO, Malheur FO
	Three Rivers RMP	BLM, Three Rivers FO
	Two Rivers RMP	BLM, Deschutes FO
	Upper Deschutes RMP	BLM, Deschutes FO
	Winema NF LRMP	FS, Fremont-Winema NF
	Cedar-Beaver-Garfield-Antimony RMP	BLM, Cedar City FO
	Dixie NF LRMP	FS, Dixie NF
	Fishlake NF LRMP	FS, Fishlake NF
	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan	BLM, Grand Staircase-Escalante NM FO
	House Range RMP	BLM, Fillmore FO
	Kanab RMP	BLM, Kanab FO
	Moab RMP	BLM, Moab FO
	Pinyon MFP	BLM, Cedar City FO
	Pony Express RMP	BLM, Salt Lake FO
	Price RMP	BLM, Price FO
	Richfield RMP	BLM, Richfield FO
Washington	St. George (Dixie) RMP	BLM, St. George FO
	San Juan RMP	BLM, Monticello FO
	Uinta NF LRMP	FS, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF
	Vernal RMP	BLM, Vernal FO
	Warm Springs RMP	BLM, Fillmore FO
	Wasatch-Cache NF LRMP	FS, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache NF
	Mount Baker-Snoqualmie NF LRMP	FS, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie NF
Wyoming	Spokane RMP	BLM, Wenatchee FO
	Wenatchee NF LRMP	FS, Wenatchee NF
	Ashley NF LRMP	FS, Ashley NF
	Casper RMP	BLM, Casper FO
	Cody RMP	BLM, Cody FO
	Grass Creek RMP	BLM, Worland FO
	Great Divide RMP	BLM, Rawlins FO
	Green River RMP	BLM, Rock Springs FO
	Kemmerer RMP	BLM, Kemmerer FO
	Lander RMP	BLM, Lander FO
Medicine Bow NF LRMP	FS, Routt-Medicine Bow NF, Thunder Basin NG	
Washakie RMP	BLM, Worland FO	

AFB = Air Force Base; BLM = Bureau of Land Management; CBGA = Cedar-Beaver-Garfield-Antimony; CCCP = Complex Comprehensive Conservation Plan; DO = district office; DOD = Department of Defense; FO = field office; FS = Forest Service; GMP = General Management Plan; INRMP = Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan; LMP = Land Management Plan; LRMP = Land and Resource Management Plan; MFP = Management Framework Plan; NCA = National Conservation Area; NF = National Forest; NM = National Monument; NG = National Grassland; NPS = National Park Service; NRA = National Recreation Area; RAMP = Recreation Area Management Plan; RFP = Revised Forest Plan; RMP = Resource Management Plan.

This list represents the most current plans. This list differs in some particulars from the list in the Draft PEIS, Vol. 2. Since planning is dynamic and there may also be further changes in the locations of specific corridors, the individual agency Records of Decision may also include changes in this list.

The Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Designation of Energy Corridors on Federal Land in the 11 Western States (Draft PEIS) was made available for public review and comment from November 16, 2007, to February 14, 2008. The Draft PEIS was posted on the project Web site at <http://corridoreis.anl.gov>, the DOE NEPA Web site at <http://www.gc.energy.gov/nepa>, and provided, on request, as a CD or printed document. Notice was provided to more than 2,200 individuals and organizations who registered on the project Web site to receive information about the PEIS. Approximately 14,000 individuals and organizations commented on the Draft PEIS, providing more than 3,500 substantive comments. About 57 percent of the comment documents were received via the project Web site, 21 percent were submitted by regular mail, and 22 percent were submitted at the public hearings, as oral statements, written submissions, or both.

Volume IV of the Final PEIS contains the public comments on the Draft PEIS and the agencies' responses. Public comments addressed a broad range of issues. Nearly 35 percent of the comments addressed various topics related to the alternatives presented in the PEIS, 20 percent commented on the purpose and need, and 17 percent commented on corridor location. Nearly 5 percent of the comments were concerned with ecological issues, approximately 4 percent raised concerns about multiple impact areas, 4 percent addressed cumulative impacts, and slightly more than 2 percent dealt with tribal issues.

The remaining comments were divided among a number of topics, each comprising less than 2 percent of the total. The topics (listed in decreasing order) include general impacts, land use, water resources, health and safety, cultural resources, maps, visual resources, socioeconomics, regulations, air quality, environmental justice, and noise.

Public and internal agency review comments on the Draft PEIS were incorporated into the Final PEIS. Public comments resulted in changes to the text and modifications to corridor segments. These changes have improved the analysis and clarified the discussion of important issues but did not significantly modify the Proposed Action or proposed land use plan amendments. The Final PEIS contains a number of modifications to corridor segments in response to public and agency comments. These changes are

detailed in appendix K of the Final PEIS.

Government-to-government consultation regarding potential energy transport development and land use plan amendments on DOI-, USDA-, and DOD-administered lands was conducted with federally recognized Tribes whose interests might be directly and substantially affected. The Tribes contacted are listed in appendix C of the Final PEIS.

In addition, the Agencies have initiated activities to coordinate and consult with the governors of each of the 11 Western States addressed in the PEIS and with State agencies. Prior to the Agencies' issuance of their respective RODs, the governor of each state has the opportunity to identify any inconsistencies between the proposed land use plan amendments and State or local plans and to provide recommendations, in writing, during the 60-day consistency review period required by the BLM land use planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.3-2).

The DOI Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management (AS/LM) is the responsible official for publishing the proposed plan amendments affecting public lands. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and its implementing regulations provide land use planning authority to the Secretary, which has been delegated to this Assistant Secretary. Because any decision regarding these plan amendments is being made by the AS/LM, it is the final decision for the DOI. This decision is not subject to administrative review (protest) under the BLM (DOI) land use planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.5-2).

The USDA Under Secretary of Natural Resources and Environment is the responsible official for publishing the proposed plan amendments on National Forest System lands. The Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and their implementing regulations provide land use planning authority to the Secretary, as delegated to this Under Secretary. Because any decision regarding these plan amendments is being made by the Under Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment, it is the final decision for the Department of Agriculture. This decision is not subject to administrative review (objection) under the FS or Departmental regulations (36 CFR 219.13(a)(2)).

Copies of the Final PEIS have been sent to the Environmental Protection Agency, DOI Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance, DOI Library,

and the governors' offices in each of the 11 Western States covered by this PEIS. Copies of the Final PEIS are available at the BLM state offices and FS regional offices in the 11 Western States, DOE Headquarters Reading Room, the BLM Washington, DC, Public Affairs office and the FS Washington, DC, offices. Those interested may also review the Final PEIS and proposed land use plan amendments online at <http://corridoreis.anl.gov>.

Michael D. Nedd,

Assistant Director, Minerals and Realty Management, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior.

[FR Doc. E8-28279 Filed 11-26-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-84-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Central Valley Project Improvement Act, Water Management Plans

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The following Water Management Plans are available for review:

- Glide Irrigation District
- Kanawha Water District
- Panoche Water District
- Clear Creek Community Services District
- Arvin Edison Irrigation District

To meet the requirements of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act of 1992 (CVPIA) and the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) developed and published the Criteria for Evaluating Water Management Plans (Criteria). For the purpose of this announcement, Water Management Plans (Plans) are considered the same as Water Conservation Plans. The above entities have developed a Plan, which Reclamation has evaluated and preliminarily determined to meet the requirements of these Criteria. Reclamation is publishing this notice in order to allow the public to review the plans and comment on the preliminary determinations. Public comment on Reclamation's preliminary (i.e., draft) determination is invited at this time.

DATES: All public comments must be received by December 29, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Please mail comments to Ms. Laurie Sharp, Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825, or contact at 916-978-5232 (TDD 978-5608), or e-mail at Isharp@mp.usbr.gov.