
APPENDIX H

APPENDIX H

Public Participation

This appendix contains copies of the following notices and announcements issued for the public comment period and at the start of the scoping process.

- Notice of Availability for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer Project, published in the Federal Register, September 4, 2003 [Page 52613]
- Letter sent to agencies and individuals announcing availability of DEIS and public meetings
- Newspaper announcement in the Yuma Daily Sun
- Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer Project, published in the Federal Register, July 31, 2001 [Page 39534-39536]
- Letter sent to agencies and individuals announcing public scoping meetings
- Newspaper announcement in the Yuma Daily Sun

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[AK-932-1430-ET; AA-26417]

Public Land Order No. 7581; Extension of Public Land Order No. 6458; Alaska**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.**ACTION:** Public land order.

SUMMARY: This order extends the withdrawal created by Public Land Order No. 6458 for an additional 20-year period. This extension is necessary to continue the protection of the Sitka Magnetic Observatory Site.

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 6, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robbie J. Havens, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, 222 W. 7th Avenue, No. 13, Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599, 907-271-5477.

Order

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by Section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (2000), it is ordered as follows:

1. The withdrawal created by Paragraph 4 of Public Land Order No. 6458 (48 FR 40232, September 6, 1983), which withdrew 117.13 acres of public land from surface entry and mining to protect the Sitka Magnetic Observatory Site, is hereby extended for an additional 20-year period.

2. This withdrawal will expire on September 5, 2023, unless as a result of a review conducted prior to the expiration date pursuant to section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f)(1994), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be extended.

Dated: August 14, 2003.

Rebecca W. Watson,*Assistant Secretary—Land and Minerals Management.*

[FR Doc. 03-22505 Filed 9-3-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-JA-P

ACTION: Notice of availability, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Wellton-Mohawk title transfer.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to evaluate the potential effects of the proposed Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer. The title transfer will transfer ownership and divest Reclamation of the responsibility for the operation, maintenance, management, regulation of, and liability for the project facilities and appurtenant lands to the entity that has demonstrated its ability to manage the project, the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District (District). This title transfer will consolidate management responsibility with the District, thereby allowing the District to have greater authority in the management of growth and land based issues in the Wellton-Mohawk Valley, protect against encroachment on agriculture, and consolidate ownership of lands, facilities, and the Gila River Flood Channel.

DATES: The public review period shall close on October 29, 2003. Written comments on the DEIS must be received at the address listed under the

ADDRESSES section.

Public hearings will also be held to accept oral and written comments on the DEIS at:

- Wellton, Arizona, on Wednesday, October 1, 2003, from 7 to 9 p.m.
- Yuma, Arizona, on Thursday, October 2, 2003, from 7 to 9 p.m.

The public hearing facilities are accessible to those who are physically-challenged. Please contact Ms. Nancy Blake by telephone at (602) 258-0234 or by facsimile at (602) 258-2352 for accessibility accommodations, including sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aids. Requests should be made by September 17, 2003, to allow sufficient time to arrange for accommodation.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the DEIS should be submitted to Ms. Margot Selig, Lower Colorado Regional Office, Bureau of Reclamation, PO Box 61470, BCOO-4451, Boulder City, NV 89006-1470, or via facsimile to (702) 293-8042.

The public hearings will be held at:

- Antelope Union High School, 9168 South Avenue 36E, Wellton, Arizona
- Ramada Inn Chilton and Conference Center—Inca Room, 300 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona

See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below for locations where copies

of the DEIS are available for public review and inspection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Margot Selig, Lower Colorado Regional Title Transfer Coordinator, Bureau of Reclamation, (702) 293-8192. Those wishing to obtain a copy of the DEIS in the form of a printed document or on compact disk (CD-ROM with Adobe Acrobat Reader included), or a summary of the DEIS may contact Ms. Selig.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Public Disclosure**

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from public disclosure, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There may be other circumstances in which we would withhold a respondent's identity from public disclosure, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public disclosure in their entirety.

Hearing Process Information

Requests to make oral comments at the public hearings may be made at each hearing. Comments will be recorded by a court reporter. Speakers will be called in the order of their requests. In the interest of available time, each speaker will be asked to limit oral comments to 5 minutes. Longer comments should be summarized at the public hearing and submitted in writing either at the public hearing or identified as hearing comments and mailed to be received by Ms. Selig no later than September 29, 2003.

Background

The DEIS will be used in the decision-making process pursuant to the Wellton-Mohawk Transfer Act of June 2000 (Pub. L. 106-221), whereby the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to transfer title to the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project works, facilities and certain federally-owned lands from the United States to the District. The District is a political subdivision of the State of Arizona constituted to own lands and facilities and to contract with Reclamation for diversion of Colorado River water for delivery to its landowners. Reclamation and the District signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in July 1998,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Reclamation**

[DES 03-50]

Transfer of Title to Facilities, Works, and Lands of the Gila Project, Wellton-Mohawk Division to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District, Yuma County, AR (Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer)**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

amended May 11, 2001, which defines the methods and principles of this title transfer process.

Two alternatives are evaluated in the DEIS: (1) the No Action Alternative, under which facilities of the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project and lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project would remain in Federal ownership, and (2) the Proposed Action/Preferred Alternative under which Reclamation would transfer title to the facilities of the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project and lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project to the District.

Review and Inspection of the DEIS

Copies of the DEIS are available for public review at the following locations:

- Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District, 30570 Wellton-Mohawk Drive, Wellton, AZ, telephone: (928) 785-3351
- Dateland School Branch Library, Avenue 64 East, Dateland, AZ, telephone: (928) 454-2243
- Foothills Branch Library, 11279 South Glenwood Avenue, Yuma, AZ, telephone: (928) 342-1640
- Roll Branch Library, 5151 South Avenue 39 East, Roll, AZ, telephone: (928) 785-3701
- Wellton Branch Library, 10425 Williams Street, Wellton, AZ, telephone: (928) 785-9575
- Yuma County Main Library, 350 South 3rd Avenue, Yuma, AZ, telephone: (928) 782-1871

Internet

The DEIS is also available on the Internet at <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/yuma/> and <http://www.bookmanedmonston.com>.

Dated: August 12, 2003.

Lorri Gray,

Assistant Regional Director, Lower Colorado Region.

[FR Doc. 03-22510 Filed 9-3-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-MN-P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigations Nos. 731-TA-753-756 (Review)]

Cut-to-Length Carbon Steel Plate From China, Russia, South Africa, and Ukraine

Determinations

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject five-year reviews, the

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

United States International Trade Commission (Commission) determines, pursuant to section 751(c) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)) (the Act), that termination of the suspended investigations on cut-to-length carbon steel plate from China, Russia, and Ukraine would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time. The Commission further determines that termination of the suspended investigation on the subject product from South Africa would not be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.²

Background

The Commission instituted these reviews on September 3, 2002 (67 FR 56311) and determined on December 9, 2002 that it would conduct full reviews (67 FR 77803, December 19, 2002). Notice of the scheduling of the Commission's reviews and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** on March 21, 2003 (68 FR 13950). The hearing was held in Washington, DC, on July 8, 2003, and all persons who requested the opportunity were permitted to appear in person or by counsel.

The Commission will transmit its determinations in these reviews to the Secretary of Commerce on August 29, 2003. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 3626 (September 2003), entitled Cut-to-length Carbon Steel Plate from China, Russia, South Africa, and Ukraine: Investigations Nos. 731-TA-753-756 (Review).

Issued: August 29, 2003.

By order of the Commission.

Marilyn R. Abbott,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 03-22538 Filed 9-3-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

² Commissioner Stephen Koplan dissenting. Commissioner Charlotte Lane did not participate in these reviews.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigations Nos. 701-TA-432 (Final) and 731-TA-1024-1028 (Final)]

Prestressed Concrete Steel Wire Strand From Brazil, India, Korea, Mexico, and Thailand

AGENCY: United States International Trade Commission.

ACTION: Scheduling of the final phase of countervailing duty and antidumping investigations.

SUMMARY: The Commission hereby gives notice of the scheduling of the final phase of countervailing duty investigation No. 701-TA-432 (Final) under section 705(b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1671d(b)) (the Act) and the final phase of antidumping investigations Nos. 731-TA-1024-1028 (Final) under section 735(b) of the Act (19 U.S.C. 1673d(b)) to determine whether an industry in the United States is materially injured or threatened with material injury, or the establishment of an industry in the United States is materially retarded, by reason of subsidized imports from India of prestressed concrete steel wire strand (PC strand) and less-than-fair-value imports from Brazil, India, Korea, Mexico, and Thailand of PC strand, provided for in subheading 7312.10.30 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.¹

For further information concerning the conduct of this phase of the investigations, hearing procedures, and rules of general application, consult the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, part 201, subparts A through E (19 CFR part 201), and part 207, subparts A and C (19 CFR part 207).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 16, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Messer (202-205-3193), Office of Investigations, U.S. International Trade Commission, 500 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20436. Hearing-impaired persons can obtain information on this matter by contacting

¹ For purposes of these investigations, the Department of Commerce has defined the subject merchandise as follows: "PC strand is steel strand produced from wire of non-stainless, non-galvanized steel, which is suitable for use in prestressed concrete (both pretensioned and post-tensioned) applications. The product definition encompasses covered and uncovered strand and all types, grades, and diameters of PC strand. The merchandise under investigation is currently classifiable under subheadings 7312.10.3010 and 7312.10.3012 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). Although the HTSUS subheadings are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the merchandise under investigation is dispositive."



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Yuma Area Office
7301 Calle Agua Salada
Yuma, Arizona 85364

IN REPLY REFER TO:

YAO-7300
ENV-6.00

MEMORANDUM

To: Interested Party

From: Acting Jim Cherry
Area Manager

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has prepared a DEIS to evaluate the potential effects of the proposed Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer. The title transfer will divest Reclamation of the responsibility for the ownership, operation, maintenance, management, regulation of, and liability for the project facilities and appurtenant lands to the entity that has demonstrated its ability to manage the project, the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District (District). This title transfer will consolidate management responsibility with the District, thereby allowing the District to have greater authority in the management of growth and land based issues in the Wellton-Mohawk Valley, protect against encroachment on agriculture, and consolidate ownership of lands, facilities, and the Gila River Flood Channel. The Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer is an administrative action that focuses on land management issues and does not involve construction, modification to facilities, or operational changes to the District or the Colorado River.

The DEIS will be used in the decision-making process pursuant to the Wellton-Mohawk Transfer Act of June 2000 (Pub. L. 106-221), whereby the Secretary of the Interior was authorized to transfer title to the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project works, facilities and certain

Federally-owned lands from the United States to the District. The District is a political subdivision of the State of Arizona constituted to own lands and facilities and to contract with Reclamation for diversion of Colorado River water for delivery to its landowners. Reclamation and the District signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in July 1998, as amended May 11, 2001, which defines the methods and principles of the title transfer process.

Two alternatives are evaluated in the DEIS:

(1) the No Action Alternative, under which facilities of the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project and lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project would remain in Federal ownership, and

(2) the Proposed Action/Preferred Alternative under which Reclamation would transfer title to the facilities of the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project and lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project to the District.

A 60-day public review period begins August 29, 2003. Copies of the DEIS are available for public review at the following locations:

- Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District,
30570 Wellton-Mohawk Drive, Wellton, AZ, telephone
No.: 928-785-3351
- Dateland School Branch Library, Avenue 64 East,
Dateland, AZ, telephone No.: 928-454-2243
- Foothills Branch Library, 11279 South Glenwood Avenue,
Yuma, AZ, telephone No.: 928-342-1640
- Roll Branch Library, 5151 South Avenue 39 East,
Roll, AZ, telephone No.: 928-785-3701
- Wellton Branch Library, 10425 Williams Street,
Wellton, AZ, telephone No.: 928-785-9575
- Yuma County Main Library, 350 South 3rd Avenue,
Yuma, AZ, telephone No.: 928-782-1871

The DEIS is also available on the Internet at <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/yuma/> and <http://www.bookmanedmonston.com>. If you wish to obtain a copy of the DEIS in the form of a printed document or on compact disk (CD-ROM with Adobe Acrobat Reader included), or a summary of the DEIS, please contact Ms. Margot Selig, Lower Colorado Regional Office Title Transfer Coordinator at 702-293-8192.

Written comments on the DEIS should be submitted to Ms. Selig, Lower Colorado Regional Office, Bureau of Reclamation, P.O. Box 61470, BC00-4451, Boulder City, NV, 89006-1470 or via facsimile to 702-293-8042. Written comments on the DEIS must be received no later than October 29, 2003.

Oral and written comments on the DEIS will be accepted at the following public hearings:

Antelope Union High School, 9168 South Avenue 36E,
Wellton, Arizona on Wednesday, October 1, 2003, from
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Ramada Inn Chilton and Conference Center - Inca Room,
300 East 32nd Street, Yuma, Arizona on Thursday,
October 2, 2003, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

For further information, please contact Ms. Selig.

Publisher's Affidavit of Publication

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STATE OF ARIZONA }
COUNTY OF YUMA }

Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has prepared a DEIS to evaluate the potential effects of the proposed Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer. The title transfer will transfer ownership and divest Reclamation of the responsibility for the ownership, operation, maintenance, management, regulation of, and liability for the project facilities and appurtenant lands to the entity that has demonstrated its ability to manage the project, the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District (District). This title transfer will consolidate management responsibility with the District, thereby allowing the District to have greater authority in the management of growth and land based issues in the Wellton-Mohawk Valley, protect against encroachment on agriculture, and consolidate ownership of lands, facilities, and the Gila River Flood Channel. The Williams St, Wellton, AZ, 928-785-9575

• Yuma County Main Library, 350 S 3rd Ave, Yuma, AZ, 928-782-1871

The DEIS is also available on the Internet at www.usbr.gov/lc/yuma/ and www.bookmanedmonston.com. If you wish to obtain a copy of the DEIS in the form of a printed document or on compact disk (CD-ROM with Adobe Acrobat Reader included), or a summary of the DEIS, please contact Ms. Margot Selig, Lower Colorado Regional Office Title Transfer Coordinator at 702-293-8192.

Written comments on the DEIS should be submitted to Ms. Selig, Lower Colorado Regional Office, Bureau of Reclamation, P.O. Box 61470, BCOO-4451, Boulder City, NV, 89006-1470 or via facsimile to 702-293-8042. Written comments on the DEIS must be received no later than October 29, 2003.

Oral and written comments on the DEIS will also be accepted at the following public hearings:

• Antelope Union High School, 9168 S Ave 36E, Wellton, Arizona on October 1, 2003, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

• Ramada Inn Chilton and Conference Center - Inca Room, 300 E 32nd St, Yuma, Arizona on October 2, 2003, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The public hearing facilities are accessible to those who are physically-challenged. Please contact Ms. Nancy Blake by telephone at (602) 258-0234 or by facsimile at (602) 258-2352 for accessibility accommodations, including sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aids. Requests should be made by September 17, 2003, to allow sufficient time to arrange for accommodation.

For further information, please contact Ms. Selig.

Daily September 5, 6, 7, 2003

#L27150

Julie Moreno or Lee Knapp, having been first duly sworn, deposes and says: that The Sun is a newspaper of general circulation published daily in the City of Yuma, County of Yuma, State of Arizona; that (s)he is the publisher or business manager of said paper; that the

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

a printed copy of which, as it appeared in said paper, is hereto attached and made a part of this affidavit, was published in The Sun

For THREE issues; that the date of the first publication of said NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

was SEPTEMBER 5, 2003 and the date of the last publication being SEPTEMBER 7, 2003 and that the dates when said

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

was printed and published in said paper were

SEPTEMBER 5, 6, 7, 2003

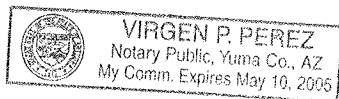
Lee Knapp

Subscribed and sworn to before me, by the said Julie Moreno or Lee Knapp

9th day of September, 2003

Virgen P. Perez Notary Public

My commission expires May 10, 2005



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed Wellton-Mohawk title transfer.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) intends to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential effects of the proposed title transfer of property in Yuma County, Arizona, to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District (District). This information will be used in the decision-making process pursuant to the Wellton-Mohawk Transfer Act of June 20, 2000 (Pub. L. 106-221), whereby the Secretary of Interior was authorized to convey certain works, facilities, and lands of the Gila Project (61 Stat. 628), including the conveyance of designated acquired, public, and withdrawn lands within or adjacent to the Gila Project, to the District. The District shall be a cooperating agency with Reclamation in the NEPA review of this proposed project. At present it is not clear whether the scope of the action will require the preparation of an EIS or an environmental assessment (EA). However, to ensure a timely and appropriate level of NEPA compliance and to limit future delays in completing the environmental analysis for the proposed title transfer, Reclamation is at this time proceeding as if the project will require the preparation of an EIS. Reclamation will reevaluate the need for an EIS after receiving public comment on the proposed action and initiating the environmental analysis for the title transfer. Reclamation will publish a notice of cancellation if, as the result of additional information and analysis, a decision is made to prepare an EA rather than an EIS.

DATES: Public meetings are planned for the purpose of defining the scope of the EIS, identifying reasonably foreseeable alternatives to the proposed action, and noting specific issues that need to be addressed. Meeting dates, times, and locations are as follows:

Wednesday, August 15, 7 p.m. at Antelope Union High School, 9168 South Avenue 36E, Wellton, Arizona; and

Thursday, August 16, 7 p.m. at Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona.

Persons with disabilities or language barriers are requested to contact Rhoda Thomas, telephone (602) 258-0234, Fax. (602) 258-2352, to arrange specific accommodations for either of these meetings.

Written comments will be received by Reclamation regarding the proposed project and the scope of the environmental impacts analysis to be conducted as part of the NEPA review process. The comment period shall extend for 30 days from the date of publication of this notice through August 30, 2001. Comments may be sent to Mr. Richard Strahan at the address provided below.

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from public disclosure, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold a respondent's identity from public disclosure, as allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public disclosure in their entirety.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: To request additional information about the proposed project and public meetings and to provide written comments on the scope of the EIS, contact Mr. Richard Strahan, Project Manager, Yuma Area Office, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, AZ 85364-9763; telephone (928) 343-8277; email rstrahan@lc.usbr.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States holds title to works and facilities in the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project, which was authorized by the Gila Project Reauthorization Act of July 30, 1947 (61 Stat. 628), and lands within and adjacent to the District. The Wellton-Mohawk Transfer Act (Public Law 106-221) of June 20, 2000, authorized the Secretary of Interior to transfer title to these works, facilities, and lands.

Pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement (No. 8-AA-34-WA014, dated July 10, 1998), the District and Reclamation shall jointly identify lands within and adjacent to the District to be purchased or exchanged or otherwise transferred by and between the District and Reclamation. Acquired Lands, Public Lands, and Withdrawn Lands shall be appraised in accordance with practices approved by the Secretary to ensure that the United States receives fair market value for the lands purchased or exchanged.

The District, whose jurisdiction covers approximately 63,000 acres of arable land along the Gila River in an area east of Yuma, Arizona, receives irrigation water through canals and related works and facilities constructed by Reclamation as part of the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Federal Gila Project. Over the years, the District has repaid the costs of their construction, and it operates and maintains the works and facilities and administers the distribution of water and collection of revenues from water users. Reclamation, as the owner of the Federal facilities and associated rights-of-way, monitors the use and maintenance of the facilities and administers the legal aspects of the landownership.

Jointly, Reclamation and the District will evaluate the environmental aspects associated with the proposed transfer of title to

the works and facilities and to certain lands currently vested in the United States. The works and facilities include canals, canal structures, pumping plants, pumps, motors, transformers, laterals, drains, roads, buildings, and works, including Gila River flood protection and control works rights-of-way and easements for facilities and other interests in lands. The District has also expressed an interest in purchasing, at fair market value, various tracts of Reclamation land associated with the Wellton-Mohawk Division of the Gila Project that were not included in the construction cost repayment schedule.

Responsibility for ownership of Reclamation works and facilities and associated land would be assumed by the District as part of its established irrigation, drainage, and flood control operation program and in the interest of maintaining a viable agricultural economy in Yuma County.

The proposed title transfer would eliminate duplication of administrative costs and divided responsibilities that exist because of Federal ownership of works and facilities that are operated and maintained by the District. These include Reclamation's oversight of the District's operation and maintenance of facilities as well as distribution and use of irrigation water, and the reporting required of the District by Reclamation. The proposed change in title would not change the purpose, operation, or use of the facilities and works, nor actions and relationships outside of District operations, such as allocation of Colorado River water, conveyance of agricultural return flows from the District, Federal programs related to Colorado River water quality, and power contracts involving the District.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE: The preferred alternative would involve the proposed transfer to the District of Reclamation-owned irrigation and drainage water conveyance and distribution works and facilities beginning at the Gila Gravity Main Canal, the Gila River flood channel and protective dikes, and the Federal rights-of-way and easements on which these facilities are located. In addition, the preferred alternative includes the District's purchase, at fair market value, of other lands in the District that Reclamation has withdrawn from the public domain for project purposes or has acquired in connection with the Colorado River Salinity Control Project, and lands that are still in the public domain which would complement the operational integrity of the Wellton-Mohawk Division.

Anyone interested in more information concerning the proposed title transfer should contact Mr. Strahan as provided above.

Dated: July 16, 2001.

J.F. Williams,
Deputy Area Manager, Yuma Area Office.
[FR Doc. 01-18977 Filed 7-30-01; 8:45 am]



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Yuma Area Office
P.O. Box D
Yuma, Arizona 85366

IN REPLY REFER TO:

YAO-7005
PRJ-5.10

August 1, 2001

To: All Interested Persons

Subject: Announcement of Public Meetings (Announcement) for the Environmental Review of the Proposed Wellton-Mohawk Title Transfer Project (Project)

This Announcement is being made to advise all Interested Persons that the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is planning to convene Public Meetings (Meetings) to obtain input on the scope of an Environmental Impact Analysis of the proposed Project. Reclamation is the lead Federal agency conducting a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review of the transfer of certain works, facilities, and lands within or adjacent to, the Gila Project to the Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District (District). The District is participating with Reclamation in the NEPA review process as a cooperating agency.

The Wellton-Mohawk Transfer Act of June 20, 2000 (Public Law 106-221), authorized the Secretary of the Interior to convey title to certain Gila Project works, facilities, and lands to the District. Included are irrigation and drainage systems, protective flood control facilities, and rights-of-way. Also, the District has expressed an interest in purchasing certain Federal lands at fair market value.

You are invited to learn more about the proposed action and provide oral and/or written comments and input on the scope of the proposed action, alternatives to the proposed action, and specific issues and concerns. Meetings are scheduled as follows:

- August 15, 2001, 7:00 p.m., at Antelope Union High School, 9168 South Avenue 36E, Wellton, Arizona; and
- August 16, 2001, 7:00 p.m., at Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona.

Persons with disabilities or language barriers are requested to contact Mr. Larry Killman, at telephone 928-785-3351, to arrange specific accommodations for either of these meetings.

The comment period on the Project-Scoping Phase ends August 30, 2001. Comments should be submitted at the Meetings or sent to Mr. Richard Strahan, Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office, 7301 Calle Agua Salada, Yuma, Arizona, 85364; or e-mail rstrahan@lc.usbr.gov. Please be aware that written comments become part of the Administrative Record associated with the proposed Project and are available to others upon request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act.

We look forward to receiving your input to the NEPA process for this Project.

Sincerely,


For Jim Cherry
Area Manager

Publisher's Affidavit of Publication

oOo

STATE OF ARIZONA }
COUNTY OF YUMA }

Notice of Public Scoping Meetings
for the National Environmental Policy
Act Review of a Proposed Title
Transfer

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Yuma, Arizona

The U.S. Department of Interior,
Bureau of Reclamation, announces
upcoming public meetings for the
National Environmental Policy Act
(NEPA) review of a proposed trans-
fer of title to federal works, facilities,
and lands to the Wellton-Mohawk
Irrigation and Drainage District.
Reclamation is the lead federal
agency undertaking the NEPA
review, and the District is participat-
ing as a cooperating agency. The
meetings, which are intended to
solicit public comments on the scope
of the NEPA review, will be held on

August 15, 2001, 7:00 p.m. at
Antelope Union High School, 9168
South Avenue 36E, Wellton, Arizona;
and

August 16, 2001, 7:00 p.m. at
Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area
Office, 7301 Calle Agua Salada,
Yuma, Arizona.

Questions on this notice may be
directed to Mr. Richard Strahan,
Yuma Area Office, Bureau of Recla-
mation, telephone (520) 343-8277;
email rstrahan@lc.usbr.gov.
Daily August 6, 7, 8, 2001 #L23190

Julie Moreno or Lee Knapp, having been first duly sworn, deposes
and says: that The Sun is a newspaper of general circulation
published daily in the City of Yuma, County of Yuma, State of Arizona;
that (s)he is the publisher or business manager of said paper; that the

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

a printed copy of which, as it appeared in said paper, is hereto attached
and made a part of this affidavit, was published in The Sun

For THREE issues; that the date of the first
publication of said NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

was AUGUST 6, 2001 and the date of the last publication
being AUGUST 8, 2001 and that the dates when said

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

was printed and published in said paper were
AUGUST 6, 7, 8, 2001

Lee Knapp

Subscribed and sworn to before me, by the said Julie Moreno or
Lee Knapp

10th day of August, 2001

Virgen P. Perez Notary Public

My commission expires May 10, 2005



