

mandated in accordance with the recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, Public Law 101-510, as amended (the "BRAC law").

DATES: The review period for the DEIS will end 45 days after publication of the NOA in the **Federal Register** by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ADDRESSES: Questions and/or written comments regarding the DEIS, or a request for a copy of the document may be directed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: Dr. Susan Ivester Rees, U.S. Army Engineer District, Modile (CESAM-PD), 109 St. Joseph Street, Mobile, AL 36602.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Susan Ivester Rees at 334-694-4141 or by facsimile at 334-690-2727.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DEIS analyzes three alternative courses of action with respect to the disposal and subsequent reuse of the 676 acres (440 land acres and 236 submerged land acres) comprising the Military Ocean Terminal, Bayonne (MOTBY): (1) The no action alternative, under which the property would be maintained in a caretaker status after closure; (2) the unencumbered alternative, under which the Army would transfer the property without encumbrances, such as environmental restrictions and easements; and (3) the encumbered disposal alternative, under which the Army would transfer the property with various environmental restrictions and easement, limiting the future use of the property. Additionally, this DEIS analyzes the potential environmental and socioeconomic consequences of three community reuse alternatives: (1) low intensity reuse alternative; (2) Low-medium intensity reuse alternative; and (3) medium intensity reuse alternative.

The DEIS concludes the no action alternative is not reasonable since the closure of MOTBY is mandated by BRAC law, and the Army has no requirement to retain the property. The DEIS also concludes that the unencumbered disposal alternative is not feasible given environmental conditions and legal requirements.

The Army's preferred alternative course of action is the encumbered disposal of excess property. Possible encumbrances include: covenants and restrictions pertaining to asbestos-containing material; lead-based paint; floodplains; future remedial activities after transfer; wetlands and easements; and rights-of-way.

Community reuse of the MOTBY property is analyzed in the DEIS as a secondary action resulting from closure

and disposal by the Army. While the Army does not control the community's reuse of the property, under NEPA, the Army is required to analyze the reasonably foreseeable impacts of its disposal action. The local community has established the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority (BLRA) to develop and implement a reuse plan for the installation. Approval and implementation of the reuse plan are within the discretion of the BLRA.

A public meeting will be held during the 45-day DEIS comment period to afford the public the opportunity to provide oral and written comments on the DEIS. The location and time of the meeting will be announced in local newspapers at least 15 days prior to the meeting. Verbal comments made at the public meeting and written comments received during the comment period will be used in the preparation of the Final EIS and Record of Decision.

Copies of the DEIS have been forwarded to the EPA, other Federal, state, and local agencies; public officials; and organizations and individuals who previously provided substantive comments in the EIS scoping process. Copies of the DEIS are available for review at the following libraries: The Bayonne Free Public Library, 697 Avenue C, Bayonne, NJ 07002-2806; the Jersey City Public Library, 472 Jersey Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07302; and the Newark Public Library, 5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102.

Dated: March 25, 1999.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army, (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA(I&E).

[FR Doc. 99-7865 Filed 3-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Termination of Environmental Impact Statement for Management of Aircraft Operations at Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island, Washington

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy, announced its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the management of air operations at NAS

Whidbey Island. The Notice of Intent was published in the **Federal Register** on February 7, 1989. The EIS was to cover proposed air operations associated with increased training activity at Ault Field and Outlying Field (OLF) Coupeville. The Notice of Availability for the Draft EIS (DEIS) was published in the **Federal Register** on August 27, 1993. The DEIS was distributed to various federal, state, and local agencies, elected officials, special interest groups, interested individuals, and the media. Public hearings were held on September 29, 1993 and November 10, 1993.

At the time of the preparation of the DEIS, all Navy EA-6B Prowler electronic warfare squadrons and all west coast A-6E Intruder squadrons were stationed at NAS Whidbey Island. Ault Field and Outlying Field (OLF) Coupeville were used for aircraft training exercises on Whidbey Island.

Since the publication of the DEIS, the conditions at NAS Whidbey Island have changed significantly. All A-6E aircraft have been decommissioned and are no longer based at NAS Whidbey Island. Accordingly air operations at NAS Whidbey Island have been reduced 40-50% from 1988 levels.

The significant reduction in air operation activities has eliminated the need for proposed modifications to NAS Whidbey Island air operations. Therefore, the preparation of an EIS for Management of Aircraft Operations at NAS Whidbey Island is no longer required and the process is hereby terminated.

ADDRESSES: Questions regarding this notice may be directed to: Ms. Kathryn Souders, Environmental Affairs Director, NAS Whidbey Island at (360) 257-1009.

Dated: 25 March 1999.

Pamela A. Holden,

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

[FR Doc. 99-7895 Filed 3-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information

collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507 (j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by April 2, 1999. A regular clearance process is also beginning. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the emergency review should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Danny Werfel, Desk Officer: Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget; 725 17th Street, N.W., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503. Comments regarding the regular clearance and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address *Pat Sherrill@ed.gov*, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review

requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. ED invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner, (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: March 25, 1999.

William E. Burrow,

Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of the Chief Information Officer

Type of Review: New.

Title: Year 2000 Assessment Survey of Postsecondary Educational Institutions.

Abstract: The Department of Education (ED) is actively participating on the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion and this Year 2000 Assessment Survey is a Departmental, as well as a Council, initiative. ED is taking a proactive approach in requesting postsecondary educational institutions report on their Year 2000 readiness. ED needs to survey the progress of domestic (50 States, Guam, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, five U.S. Outlying Areas and the District of Columbia) postsecondary educational institutions and foreign postsecondary educational institutions attended by our students receiving federal financial aid. This will be done in order to ensure the successful operation of ED's programs and to report to the Office of Management and Budget, The President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion and other Year 2000 oversight authorities.

Additional Information: This survey is being submitted for emergency clearance, as it is a Year 2000 related data collection assessment effort. The year 2000 is only nine months away. Due to the short time period left before the Year 2000 and the urgency of achieving Year 2000 compliance of

postsecondary educational institutions; we are requesting the 60-day and 30-day waiver for **Federal Register** Notices.

This waiver is requested per emergency clearance of Year 2000 surveys under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Frequency: As required by OMB, The President's Council on Year 2000 conversion and other Year 2000 oversight authorities.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:
Responses: 4,631.
Burden Hours: 30,102.

[FR Doc. 99-7820 Filed 3-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 1, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address *Pat Sherrill@ed.gov*, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

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