

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Executive Summary [excerpted from the *2009 Annual Plan* p. 3].

This document is the *2009 Annual Plan* for the Ultra-Deepwater and Unconventional Natural Gas and Other Petroleum Resources Research and Development Program established pursuant to Title IX, Subtitle J (Subtitle J) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPAAct). Subtitle J is reproduced in Appendix A to the 2009 Annual Plan.

As required by Subtitle J, the Department of Energy (DOE) contracted with a consortium (Program Consortium) to administer three program elements identified in EPAAct: Ultra-deepwater architecture and technology, unconventional natural gas and other petroleum resources exploration and production technology, and technology challenges of small producers.

A fourth program element of complementary research identified in EPAAct is being performed by the National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL). NETL is also tasked with management of the consortium contract, and review and oversight of the Program Consortium.

In 2006, NETL awarded a contract to the Research Partnership to Secure Energy for America (RPSEA) to function as the Program Consortium.

The 2007 Annual Plan, the first annual plan, resulted in a total of 15 solicitations from which 43 projects were selected.

In August 2008, the 2008 Annual Plan was transmitted to Congress and published in the **Federal Register**. Implementation will include a total of 13 solicitations that are expected to be issued by the Program Consortium in late fall/early winter 2008, with selections anticipated in early 2009.

As further required by Subtitle J, in September 2008, two Federal advisory committees, the Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee and the Unconventional Resources Technology Advisory Committee, began their respective reviews of the draft 2009 Annual Plan. In October 2008, the two advisory committees provided their recommendations.

Section 999B(e)(3) of EPAAct requires DOE to publish all written comments on the annual plan. Accordingly, the Program Consortium's final 2009 draft Annual Plan is included here as Appendix B and the comments and recommendations provided by the advisory committees are included here as Appendix C. No other written comments were received.

The 2009 Annual Plan provides a comprehensive outline of the Program

Consortium's research activities planned for 2009. The primary focus of these activities is to fill in any technology gaps not addressed by the projects and solicitations to date. A highlight of this year's plan is the attention that will be given to technology transfer.

Technology transfer is an important focus of the program. Section 999C(d) of EPAAct requires 2.5% of the amount of each award to be designated for technology transfer activities. The Federal advisory committees recommended that more information on technology transfer be included in future annual plans. In response, the 2009 Annual Plan includes the structure for the overall technology transfer program.

Section 999 H(a) of EPAAct provides that the Ultra-Deepwater and Unconventional Natural Gas and Other Petroleum Research Fund be funded at \$50-million-per-year, with funds generated from Federal lease royalties, rents, and bonuses paid by oil and gas companies. Seventy-five percent of these funds are obligated to the Program Consortium's contract to execute three program elements. After allocations for program management by NETL and program administration by the Program Consortium, the amount to be invested in research activities by the Program Consortium totals \$31.88 million per year.

Under the Stage/Gate approach applied to prior year activities, all Program Consortium administered projects will be fully funded to the completion of the appropriate decision point identified in each contract, which may include multiple stages. If a decision is made to move to the next stage or decision point or to gather additional data, additional funding will be provided from available funds.

The NETL Strategic Center for Natural Gas and Oil is responsible for management of the consortium contract, and review and oversight of the Program Consortium. Complementary R&D is being carried out by NETL's Office of Research and Development. Planning and analysis related to the program, including benefits assessment and technology impacts analysis, is being carried out by NETL's Office of Systems, Analysis, and Planning.

Section 999F of EPAAct contains a general sunset provision for Title IX, Subtitle J, of September 30, 2014.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 9, 2009.

**Guido DeHoratiis,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Oil and Natural Gas, Office of Fossil Energy.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-ORD-2008-0926; FRL-8767-8]

### Board of Scientific Counselors, Science and Technology for Sustainability Mid-Cycle Subcommittee Meetings—Winter 2009

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development (ORD), gives notice of a meeting of the Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) Science and Technology for Sustainability Subcommittee.

**DATES:** The first meeting (teleconference call) will be held on Thursday, February 12, 2009, from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). The second meeting (face-to-face) will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST. Meetings may adjourn early if all business is finished. Requests for the draft agenda or for making oral presentations at the meetings will be accepted up to one business day before the meeting.

**ADDRESSES:** Participation in the conference call will be by teleconference only—meeting rooms will not be used. Members of the public may obtain the call-in number and access code for the call from Greg Susanke, whose contact information is listed under the **FOR FURTHER**

**INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. The face-to-face meeting will be held at the EPA Building—One Potomac Yard, 2777 S. Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia, 22202. The meeting is in the Fourth Floor Conference Center North, room N-4830. Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2008-0926, by one of the following methods:

- <http://www.regulations.gov>: Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

- *E-mail*: Send comments by electronic mail (e-mail) to: [ORD.Docket@epa.gov](mailto:ORD.Docket@epa.gov), Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2008-0926.

• *Fax:* Fax comments to: (202) 566-0224, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2008-0926.

• *Mail:* Send comments by mail to: Board of Scientific Counselors, Science and Technology for Sustainability Mid-Cycle Subcommittee Meetings—Winter 2009 Docket, *Mailcode:* 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC, 20460, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2008-0926.

• *Hand Delivery or Courier.* Deliver comments to: EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC), Room B102, EPA West Building, 1301 Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, Attention Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2008-0926. Note: this is not a mailing address. Such deliveries are only accepted during the docket's normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

*Instructions:* Direct your comments to Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-ORD-2008-0926. EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through <http://www.regulations.gov> or e-mail. The <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site is an "anonymous access" system, which means EPA will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to EPA without going through <http://www.regulations.gov>, your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, EPA recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If EPA cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, EPA may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses. For additional information about EPA's public docket visit the EPA Docket Center homepage at <http://www.epa.gov/epahome/dockets.htm>.

*Docket:* All documents in the docket are listed in the <http://www.regulations.gov> index. Although

listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in <http://www.regulations.gov> or in hard copy at the Board of Scientific Counselors, Science and Technology for Sustainability Mid-Cycle Subcommittee Meetings—Winter 2009 Docket, EPA/DC, EPA West, Room B102, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays. The telephone number for the Public Reading Room is (202) 566-1744, and the telephone number for the ORD Docket is (202) 566-1752.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The Designated Federal Officer via mail at: Greg Susanke, Mail Drop 8104-R, Office of Science Policy, Office of Research and Development, Environmental Protection Agency, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; via phone/voice mail at: (202) 564-9945; via fax at: (202) 565-2911; or via e-mail at: [susanke.greg@epa.gov](mailto:susanke.greg@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**General Information**

The meetings are open to the public. Any member of the public interested in receiving a draft BOSC agenda or making a presentation at the meeting may contact Greg Susanke, the Designated Federal Officer, via any of the contact methods listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section above. In general, each individual making an oral presentation will be limited to a total of three minutes.

EPA ORD is conducting an independent expert review through the BOSC, to evaluate the progress made by the Science and Technology for Sustainability Research Program towards addressing the recommendations that resulted from its initial program review in April 2007; and to evaluate and obtain advice on key future directions for the research program which have been developed and other potential areas that could be considered. Proposed agenda items for the meetings include, but are not limited to: *Teleconference:* objectives of the review; an overview of ORD's Science and Technology for Sustainability Research Program; a summary of major changes in the research program since 2007; *Face-to-face meeting:* ORD progress in response

to recommendations from the previous BOSC program review and other activities; subcommittee discussions.

*Information on Services for Individuals with Disabilities:* For information on access or services for individuals with disabilities, please contact Greg Susanke at (202) 564-9945 or [susanke.greg@epa.gov](mailto:susanke.greg@epa.gov). To request accommodation of a disability, please contact Greg Susanke, preferably at least 10 days prior to the meeting, to give EPA as much time as possible to process your request.

Dated: January 15, 2009.

**Fred Hauchman,**

*Director, Office of Science Policy.*

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**BILLING CODE 6560-50-P**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

[FRL-8768-4]

**EPA Office of Children's Health Protection and Environmental Education Staff Office; Notice of Public Meetings for the National Environmental Education Advisory Council**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency) Office of Children's Health Protection and Environmental Education Office hereby gives notice that the National Environmental Education Advisory Council will hold public meetings by conference call on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, beginning with February 11, 2009 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. All times noted are eastern time. The purpose of these meetings is to provide the Council with the opportunity to advise the Environmental Education Division on its implementation of the National Environmental Protection Act of 1990. Requests for the draft agenda will be accepted up to 1 business day before the meeting.

**DATES:** This notice is applicable for the following dates:

- February 11, 2009.
- March 11, 2009.
- April 8, 2009.
- May 13, 2009.
- June 10, 2009.
- July 8, 2009.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

Participation in the conference calls will be by teleconference only—meeting rooms will not be used. Members of the public may obtain the call-in number