

involvement, and interagency coordination.

Scoping

A copy of this notice and additional public information will be sent to interested parties to initiate scoping. All parties are invited to participate in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns, issues, studies, and alternatives that should be considered. A scoping meeting will be announced. Project effects on wetlands and their importance to the ecology of the area and the potential for the project and project road to induce development have been identified as significant issues. The DEIS is scheduled for release in January 2001.

Guy R. McConnell,

Chief, Environmental Resources Section.

[FR Doc. 99-20194 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-NL-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Corps of Engineers; Department of the Army

Notice of Intent and Notice of Preparation for an Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report for a Proposed Ecosystem Restoration of Middle Creek in Lake County, CA

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Sacramento District (Federal); California Department of Water Resources, Division of Flood Management (State); Lake County, California (local).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The objectives of this project are to restore wetland habitat and enhance wildlife and fish habitat. Secondary objectives include preserving existing resources, improving lake water quality, enhancing recreation and tourism, reducing flood risk, and reducing maintenance cost and responsibility for Middle Creek along Rodman Slough. The intent of this project is to restore the ecosystem functions of a historic wetland at the mouth of Middle Creek.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and EIS/EIR can be answered by Jerry Fuentes at (916) 557-6706 or by mail at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, ATTN: CESP-K-PD-R, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, California 95814-2922.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action

The Corps, in cooperation with the state (California Department of Water Resources and the local sponsor (Lake County)), is conducting a feasibility investigation on the ecosystem restoration measures identified during the reconnaissance phase and described in the Middle Creek Ecosystem Restoration Study dated May, 1997. This ecosystem restoration investigation proposes to restore the wetland ecosystem functions associated with the historical wetland that existed at the mouth of Middle Creek.

2. Alternatives

The feasibility report will address an array of alternatives. Alternatives analyzed during the feasibility investigation will be a combination of one or more ecosystem restoration measures identified during the reconnaissance phase; additional measures may be considered. These alternative measures include expanding the natural floodplain, restoring open water and marsh habitat, restoring seasonal wetland and riparian habitat, enhancing upland habitat, plant marsh and riparian vegetation, planting marsh and riparian vegetation, excavating sloughs, channels, ponds, expanding lake shoreline and shallow aquatic habitat, and reducing height of levees no longer used for flood control.

- a. No Action. There will be no ecosystem restoration measures implemented for Middle Creek, Lake County.
- b. Expand the Natural Floodplain.
- c. Restore Robinson Lake from Bloody Island to Clear Lake.
- d. Restore Robinson Lake from Reclamation Road to Clear Lake.

3. Scoping Process

- a. The project study plan provides for public scoping meeting and comment. The Corps has initiated a process of involving concerned individuals, local, state, and Federal agencies.
- b. Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS/EIR include appropriate levels of the flood damaged reduction, adverse affects on vegetation and wildlife resources, special-status species, esthetics, cultural resources, recreation, and cumulative impacts of related projects in the study area.
- c. The Corps will consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report as an appendix to the EIS/EIS.
- d. A 45-day public review period will be provided for individuals and

agencies to review and comment on the EIS/EIR. All interested parties should respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be notified of the EIS/EIR circulation.

4. Public Meetings

The first of a series of public scoping meetings will be held on August 12, 1999, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Robinson Rancheria, Tribal Community Hall, 1545 East Highway 20, Upper Lake, California.

5. Availability

The EIS/EIR is scheduled to be available for public review and comment late in calendar year 2001.

Dated: July 29, 1999.

Michael J. Walsh,

COL, EN, Commanding.

[FR Doc. 99-20197 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-EZ-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.019A, 84.021A, 84.022A]

Office of Postsecondary Education: Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program, Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program, and Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2000

Purpose of Programs

(a) The Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program offers opportunities to faculty members of institutions of higher education for research and study in modern foreign languages and area studies.

(b) The Group Projects Abroad Program provides grants to support overseas projects in training, research, and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and area studies for groups of teachers, students, and faculty engaged in a common endeavor. Projects may include short-term seminars, curriculum development or group research or study. The program does not support advanced intensive language projects under this competition.

(c) The Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program provides opportunities for graduate students to engage in full-time dissertation research abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies.

Eligible Applicants

(a) Institutions of higher education are eligible to participate in the Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program

and the Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program.

(b) Institutions of higher education, State departments of education, nonprofit private educational organizations, and consortia of these entities are eligible to participate in the Group Projects Abroad Program.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications

The dates of availability of applications and the deadlines for the transmittal of applications under each of these competitions are indicated in the chart contained in this notice.

Available Funds

The estimated amount of funds available for new awards under these competitions, as shown in the chart below, is based on the Administration's request for these programs for FY 2000. The actual level of funding, if any, is contingent on final congressional action.

| CFDA number and name of program | Applications available | Deadline for transmittal of applications | Estimated range of awards | Estimated average size of awards | Estimated number of award | Project period |
|--|------------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 84.019A—Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program. | August 25, 1999 | October 25, 1999. | \$20,800–\$75,000 | \$43,000 | 23 fellowships ... | 3–12 months. |
| 84.021A—Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program. | August 16, 1999 | October 25, 1999. | 30,000–65,000 | 55,000 | 28 | 4–6 weeks for short-term seminars and curriculum development projects. 2–12 months for group research or study projects. |
| 84.022A—Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program. | August 25, 1999 | October 25, 1999. | 10,000–70,000 | 23,800 | 87 fellowships ... | 6–12 months. |

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Applicable Regulations

(a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 81, 82, 85, and 86; and (b) The regulations for these programs as follows: 34 CFR part 662 governing the Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program; 34 CFR part 663 governing the Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program; and 34 CFR part 664 governing the Group Projects Abroad Program.

Priorities

Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program and Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program

Absolute Priority: Under 34 CFR 105(c)(3) and 34 CFR 662.21(d) governing the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program and 34 CFR 105(c)(3) and 34 CFR 663.21(d) governing the Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that meet the following priority. The Secretary funds only applications that meet this absolute priority:

A research project funded under this priority must focus on one or more of

the following areas: Africa, East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, South Asia, the Near East, East Central Europe and Eurasia, and the Western Hemisphere (Canada, Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean). Please note that applications that propose projects focused on Western Europe will not be funded.

Group Projects Abroad Program

Absolute Priority: Under 34 CFR 105(c)(3) and 34 CFR 664.34 governing the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program, the Secretary gives an absolute preference to applications that meet the following priority. The Secretary funds only applications that this absolute priority:

A group project funded under this priority must propose to focus on one or more of the following areas: Africa, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific, the Western Hemisphere (Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean), East Central Europe and Eurasia, and the Near East. Please note that applications that propose projects focused on Australia, Canada or Western Europe will not be funded.

Competitive Priority: Within the absolute priority specified in this notice for the Group Projects Abroad Program, the Secretary gives preference to applications that meet the following competitive priority. Under 34 CFR

75.105(c)(2)(i) and 34 CFR 664.30(b), the Secretary awards up to five points to an application depending upon how well the application meets the priority. These points are in addition to any points the application earns under the selection criteria for the program.

Short-term seminars that develop and improve foreign language and area studies at elementary and secondary schools.

FOR APPLICATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Faculty Research Abroad Program: Eliza Washington, U.S. Department of Education, International Education and Graduate Programs Service, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Suite 600 Portals Building, Washington, DC 20202–5331. Telephone: (202) 401–9777. The e-mail address for Ms. Washington is eliza_washington@ed.gov.

Group Projects Abroad: Lungching Chiao, U.S. Department of Education, International Education and Graduate Programs Service, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Suite 600 Portals Building, Washington, DC 20202–5332. Telephone: (202) 401–9772. The e-mail address for Ms. Chiao is lungching_chiao@ed.gov.

Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program: Karla Ver Bryck Block, U.S. Department of Education, International Education and Graduate

Programs Service, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Suite 600 Portals Building Washington, DC 20202-5331. Telephone: (202) 401-9774. The e-mail address for Ms. Ver Bryck Block is karla_verbryckblock@ed.gov.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the appropriate contact persons listed in the preceding paragraphs. Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format, also, by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm>
<http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have any questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO) toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, D.C. area, at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of a document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2452(b)(6).

Dated: July 30, 1999.

Claudio R. Prieto,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 99-20155 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Stockpile Stewardship and Management

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Amended notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) is announcing a revised schedule for its preparation of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the National Ignition Facility portion (Volume III, Appendix I) of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Stockpile Stewardship and Management (DOE/EIS-0236; September, 1997). This Draft SEIS is being prepared pursuant to a Joint Stipulation and Order approved and entered as an order of the court on October 27, 1997, in partial settlement of the lawsuit *NRDC v. Richardson*, Civ. No. 97-936 (SS) (D.D.C.).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about this SEIS or to be placed on the document distribution list, please call, toll-free, (877) 388-4930, or call or write to Richard A. Scott, Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, L-293, P.O. Box 808, Livermore, CA 94550, Phone (925) 423-3022, Facsimile (925) 424-3755.

For information about the DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, please contact: Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC 20585-0119, Phone: (202) 586-4600, Messages: (800) 472-2756, Facsimile: (202) 586-7031.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In a September 25, 1998, **Federal Register** notice (63 FR 51341), DOE announced that it expected to publish a Notice of Availability for the Draft SEIS in the **Federal Register** in December 1998.

DOE now intends to publish the Notice of Availability no later than November 30, 1999. DOE has delayed the issuance of the Draft SEIS pending completion of a new investigation that was initiated in December 1998, in response to the discovery of contamination by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in soil that had been excavated from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's East Traffic Circle, which is one of the areas covered by the Joint Stipulation and Order. After the discovery of the contaminated soil, DOE on December 23, 1998, notified the court and the plaintiffs in *NRDC v. Richardson* of the discovery; stated that the contaminated soil was being removed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations; and explained that a new investigation would be conducted into the extent of the contamination, and that DOE would delay issuance of the Draft SEIS pending the results of the new investigation.

Since then, DOE has filed two Quarterly Reports with the court, on March 24 and June 22, 1999, describing the progress that it has made in conducting the investigation and in analyzing its results for incorporation into the environmental impact analyses that will be included in the Draft SEIS. Copies of those Quarterly Reports, and of DOE's December 23, 1998 notice mentioned above, are available at the DOE Oakland Operations Office Public Reading Room on the first floor of the Federal Building, 1301 Clay Street, Oakland, CA; at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Environmental Repository Public Reading Room, East Gate Visitors Center, Greenville Road, Livermore, CA; at the DOE Freedom of Information Act Public Reading Room, 1000 Independence Ave, SW, Washington, DC; or by calling Richard A. Scott at the telephone number provided above.

Issued in Washington, DC on July 30, 1999.

Jonathan S. Ventura,

Acting Executive Assistant, Office of Defense Programs.

[FR Doc. 99-20143 Filed 8-4-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EG99-206-000]

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Astoria Generating Company, L.P.; Notice of Application for Commission Determination of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status

July 30, 1999.

Take notice that on July 28, 1999, Astoria Generating Company, L.P. (Applicant), with its principal office at c/o Orion Holdings, Inc., 7 E. Redwood Street, 10th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) an application for determination of exempt wholesale generator status pursuant to Part 365 of the Commission's regulations.

Applicant will be engaged in owning and operating certain facilities located in New York State. The eligible facilities consist of approximately of the Astoria Bundle sold by Consolidated Edison of New York, with a total summer net capacity of 1,855 MW. The Applicant will sell electric energy exclusively at wholesale. Electric energy produced by the eligible facilities is sold exclusively at wholesale.

Any person desiring to be heard concerning the application for exempt