EIS No. 960566, Draft EIS, COE, LA, Mississippi River—Gulf Outlet (MRGO) New Lock and Connecting Channels Replacement and Construction for Connection to the Mississippi River, Implementation, Orleans and St. Bernard Parishes, LA, Due: February 3, 1997, Contact: Richard Boe (504) 862–1505.

EIS No. 960567, Final EIS, FHW, FL, Tampa Interstate Project, Funding, I–275 to just north of Cypress Street and I–275 from the Howard Frankland Bridge/Kennedy Boulevard ramps north to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and I–4 from I–275, Hillsborough County, FL, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Mark D. Bartlett (904) 942–9598.

EIS No. 960568, Draft EIS, COE, OR, Joe Ney and Upper Pony Creek Reservoirs Expansion Project, Municipal Water Supply, COE Section 10 and 404 Permit Issuance, Coos County, OR, Due: February 18, 1997, Contact: David Kurkoski (503) 326–6094.

EIS No. 960569, Final Supplement, NOA, NC, FL, SC, GA, South Atlantic Region Shrimp Fishery Management Plan, Implementation, Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), NC, SC, FL and GA, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Peter Eldridge (813) 570–5305.

EIS No. 960570, Final EIS, FRC, NV, Blue Diamond South Pumped Storage Hydroelectric (FERC No. 10756) Project, Issuance of License for Construction, Operation and Maintenance, Right-of-Way Grant and Possible COE Section 404 Permit, Clark County, NV, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Dianne Rodman (202) 219–2830.

EIS No. 960571, Draft EIS, UMC, CA, Sewage Effluent Compliance Project, Implementation, Lower Santa Margarita Basin, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, San Diego County, CA, Due: February 3, 1997, Contact: Sheila Donovan (619) 532–3624.

EIS No. 960572, Final EIS, FHW, VA, US 58 and Midtown Tunnel Construction, Brambleton Avenue and Hampton Boulevard in Norfolk to US 58 and VA–164/Western Freeway in Portsmouth, Funding, COE Section 404 Permit and CGD Bridge Permit, Elizabeth River, VA, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Roberto Fonesca-Martinez (804) 281–5100.

EIS No. 960573, Final EIS, BLM, NV, Twin Creeks Mine Consolidation and Expansion, which Encompasses the former Rabbit Creek Mine and the former Chimmey Creek Mine, Plan of Operation Approval and Permit Issuance, Winnemucca District, Humboldt County, NV, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Gerald Moritz (702) 623–1500.

EIS No. 960574, Draft Supplement, NOA, Atlantic Coast Weakfish Fishery, Fishery Management Plan, Implementation, Updated Information, Weakfish Harvest Control in the Atlantic Ocean Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), off the New England, Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Coast, Due: February 3, 1997, Contact: Thomas Meyer (301) 713–2339.

EIS No. 960575, Final EIS, NPS, NM, Petroglyph National Monument, General Management Plan and Development Concept Plan, Implementation, Bernalillo County, NM, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Lawrence Beal (505) 899–0205.

EIS No. 960576, Final EIS, AFS, WA, Huckleberry Land Exchange Consolidate Ownership and Enhance Future Conservation and Management, Federal Land and Non Federal Land, Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Kittitas and Lewis Counties, WA, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Doug Schrenk (206) 888–1421.

EIS No. 960577, Final EIS, DOE, Programmatic EIS—Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Ground Water Project, Clean up of 24 Mill Sites, Implementation, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Donald R. Metzler (970) 248–7612.

EIS No. 960578, Final EIS, AFS, CA, Humboldt Nursery Pest Management Plan, Implementation, Six Rivers National Forest, McKinleyville, Humboldt County, CA, Due: January 21, 1997, Contact: Susan J. Frankel (415) 705–2651.

Dated: December 17, 1996.

B. Katherine Biggs,

Associate Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 96–32390 Filed 12–19–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–P

[ER–FRL–5476–1]

Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared November 25, 1996 Through November 29, 1996 pursuant to the Environmental Review Process (ERP), under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act as amended. Requests for copies of EPA comments can be directed to the Office of Federal Activities at (202) 564–7167.

An explanation of the ratings assigned to draft environmental impact statements (EISs) was published in FR dated April 5, 1996 (65 FR 15251).

Draft EISs

ERP No. D–BLM–K67038–NV Rating EO2, Ruby Hill Gold Mining Operations Project, Implementation, Battle Mountain District, Plan of Operations and COE Section 404 Permit, Eureka County, NV.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental objection due to potential accedences of the annual National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM10 (particulate matter smaller than 10 microns). EPA also expressed concerns regarding residual impacts to sensitive species and their habitats and facilities design. EPA indicated that if the impacts to air quality and sensitive species can be sufficiently mitigated, the West Waste Rock Dump Alternative appears to be the environmentally preferable alternative, and we would recommend that BLM select it as the preferred alternative.

ERP No. D–COE–K36108–CA Rating EC2, Santa Rosa Subregional Long-Term Wastewater Project, Implementation, Reclaimed Water Disposal from the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant, COE Section 10 and 404 Permits, Sonoma County, CA.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding potential impacts to surface and groundwater quality and potential conversion of sensitive wetland habitats.

ERP No. D–DOI–J39025–UT Rating EC2, Wastach County Water Efficiency Project and Daniel Replacement Pipeline Project, Implementation, Wastach County, UT.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding the wetlands analysis and requested that corrected information related to wetland impacts needs to be presented in the final EIS in order to adequately address the differences between the alternatives.

ERP No. D–URC–J39024–UT Rating EC2, Provo River Restoration Project (PRRP), Riverine Habitat Restoration, Reconstruction and Realignment of the existing Provo River Channel and Floodplain System between Jordanell Dam and Deer River Reservoir, Wasatch County, UT.

Summary: EPA expressed environmental concerns regarding the analysis of temporal impacts and impacts due to future recreational uses of the project area. EPA requested that these issues be addressed in the final EIS.

Final EISs

ERP No. F–CCOE–E35083–NC Buckhorn Reservoir Expansion, Construction of a Dam to Impound Water on the Contentnea Creek, COE Section 404 Permit, City of Wilson, Wilson County, NC.

Summary: EPA continued to express concerns regarding the wetland mitigation plan. The other previous issues have been resolved.

Dated: December 17, 1996.

B. Katherine Biggs,

Associated Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.

[FR Doc. 96–32409 Filed 12–19–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560–50–U

[OPPTS–42190; FRL–5578–9]

Dibasic Esters—Paint Stripper Chemicals; Notice of Public Meeting

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: EPA will hold a public meeting on January 29, 1997, in Washington, DC, to begin negotiation of an enforceable consent agreement addressing toxicity testing of, and an evaluation of human exposure potential to, dibasic esters (DBEs). DBEs include dimethyl adipate, dimethyl glutarate and dimethyl succinate. These chemical substances are components of paint stripper products that are sold to consumers and are also components of some industrial hand cleaners. EPA requests that persons who intend to attend the meeting please notify EPA of their intent in writing on or before January 17, 1997.

DATES: The public meeting will be held on January 29, 1997, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in Washington, DC, at a site to be determined.

ADDRESSES: Persons with an interest in attending the meeting should notify EPA in writing by January 17, 1997. Written notification of interest in attending the meeting should be submitted to TSCA Docket Receipts (7407), Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, Environmental Protection Agency, Rm. G–99, East Tower, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460. Notifications should bear the document control number (OPPTS–42190; FRL–5578–9) and include a telephone number where the interested person may be contacted or messaged on or before January 23, 1997. Persons wishing to know the location of the meeting may call the Project Manager identified under ''FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT'' on or after January 23, 1997. The public docket supporting this DBE testing action is available for public inspection in the Nonconfidential Information Center, Rm. NE–B607, at the above address from 12 noon to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan Hazen, Director, Environmental Assistance Division (7408), Rm. E543B, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 554–1404; TDD (202) 554–0551; e-mail: TSCA-Hotline@epamail.epa.gov. For specific information regarding this action or related activities, contact George Semeniuk, Project Manager, Chemical Testing and Information Branch (7405), Rm. E221B, 401 M St., SW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone: (202) 260–2134; e-mail: semeniuk.george@epamail.epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Dibasic esters (DBEs) include dimethyl adipate (DMA, CAS No. 627–93–0), dimethyl glutarate (DMG, CAS No. 1119–40–0) and dimethyl succinate (DMS, CAS No. 106–65–0). Certain paint stripping formulations that are sold to consumers contain one or more of these chemical substances as part of a mixture. Consumers may be significantly exposed to DBEs during use of these formulations through inhalation and dermal absorption. DBEs are also components of certain industrial hand cleaners that may result in additional human exposure to DBEs.

In a notice published in the Federal Register of March 22, 1995 (60 FR 15143) (FRL–4943–6), EPA set forth its concerns for DBE toxicity and exposure and solicited proposals from any party who was interested in conducting DBE toxicity testing under the terms of a Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) section 4 enforceable consent agreement (ECA). The notice indicated that EPA, in consultation with the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), believed that a 2-tier testing regime, as was described in the notice, was both appropriate and needed in order to provide a more complete toxicity profile of DBEs. Such a profile would be used in comparing the hazards of paint strippers based on DBEs to those of consumer paint strippers that are based on methylene chloride, *N*-methylpyrrolidone, or other common paint stripping solvents.

In a letter dated August 7, 1995, the Dibasic Esters Group (DBE Group), representing Aceto Corporation, Chemie Linz North America, Inc., Chemoxy International PLC, DuPont Nylon, Monsanto Company and Morflex Inc., proposed to EPA that an ECA should be based on a more limited set of studies, than that requested by EPA. Specifically, the group proposed conducting an enhanced, 13-week subchronic inhalation study of the individual DBEs and a two-week dermal study of the individual DBEs and a DBE mixture. The DBE Group also informed EPA of the use of DBEs in industrial hand cleaners.

While noting that the proposal had potential merit and would expand the knowledge base of toxicity testing results on DBEs, EPA informed the DBE Group, in a letter dated March 6, 1996, that the proposal did not constitute an adequate basis for proceeding with negotiations to secure an ECA. EPA explained that the studies proposed by the DBE Group would not provide, by themselves, a sufficient characterization of numerous toxicological endpoints needed to acquire an adequate understanding of the hazards and risks of these chemicals. Furthermore, the proposed testing, as the initial tier of a 2-tier testing approach, would not provide the information needed to determine which DBE homologue and which exposure route would be used in follow-on testing that would be focused on developmental toxicity, reproductive toxicity and oncogenicity. EPA, however, encouraged the DBE Group to consider EPA's comments and to submit a revised proposal.

In a letter dated May 24, 1996, the DBE Group informed EPA that it would be submitting a revised proposal that would include toxicity testing and exposure evaluation, all of which should be considered Phase 1 activities. Follow-on testing activities under Phase 2, such as studies focused on reproductive toxicity, oncogenicity, pharmacokinetics, toxicological mechanisms and exposure, would be discussed if warranted by the outcome of the Phase 1 testing.

On October 22, 1996, the DBE group submitted a revised testing proposal to EPA, which EPA has accepted as a basis for proceeding to negotiation of an ECA. The DBE Group proposes conducting a toxicological research program that includes the following elements:

(1) Genetic toxicity testing of the three DBEs individually.

(2) Subchronic 90-day rat inhalation studies of each DBE that would include specialized endpoint exposure groups to assess neurotoxicity, spermatogenesis and cellular proliferation.

(3) A rabbit developmental toxicity study using a single DBE.

(4) Two-week dermal toxicity studies of a DBE mixture and the three DBEs individually.