

System, the National Forest Management Act, and the National Forest planning process. Nominations to the Committee should describe and document the proposed member's qualifications for membership on the Committee of Scientists.

Appointments to the Committee will be made by the Secretary of Agriculture. Equal opportunity practices will be followed in all appointments to the Committee of Scientists. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership will include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

Dated: July 18, 1997.

**Christine Pytel,**

*Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-21725 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 97-048N]

#### Technical Meeting to Solicit Input for a Survey on Browning in Hamburger

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is holding a public technical meeting on August 20, 1997. The purpose of the meeting is to solicit scientific information, including data, on a proposed survey to determine the frequency with which hamburger, sold at retail and cooked at home, turns brown before reaching 160 degrees F. The results of this survey will be used to determine the contribution of this factor to a risk assessment for *E. coli* O157:H7. Persons with an interest in the study, particularly in details such as sampling, preparation, cooking, and evaluation procedures to be used in this survey, are especially encouraged to attend.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on August 20, 1997, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m., and materials will be available at that time.

**ADDRESSES:** The half-day meeting will be held at the Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle, at Massachusetts Avenue and 14th Street, Washington, DC 20008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To register for the meeting, contact Ms. Traci Phebus at (202) 501-7138 or FAX (202) 501-7642. To arrange for presentation of technical materials, contact Mr. David Soderberg at (202) 501-7358 or FAX (202) 501-7639. Presenters are asked to submit one original and two copies of written comments to the FSIS Docket Clerk, Docket #97-048N, Department of Agriculture, FSIS, 102 Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, Washington, DC 20250-3700. Persons wishing to present technical data are asked to bring 100 copies of their data for distribution to participants in the meeting. Participants who require a sign language or other special accommodations should contact Ms. Phebus at the above numbers by August 13, 1997.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A pilot study to prepare for this survey was undertaken. Preliminary results from the pilot study may be available for this meeting, but the primary purpose of the pilot study was to try out laboratory techniques (for example, cooking and color evaluation) and to test logistics before initiating the main survey. Actual results from the pilot study may require more confirmation before they can be determined to be scientifically accurate. It is expected that discussions in the August 20 meeting will focus on technical details of the proposed survey. Sampling may be a major topic of discussion. The purpose of this meeting is to solicit advice on the survey design from consumers, public health officials and others.

Persons with expert knowledge about consumer behavior in the purchasing, preparing, and cooking of hamburger are especially encouraged to attend. Persons unable to attend the meeting may submit comments to the above addresses.

Transcripts of this meeting will be available in the FSIS Docket Room.

Done at Washington, DC, on: August 7, 1997.

**Thomas J. Billy,**

*Administrator.*

[FR Doc. 97-21673 Filed 8-14-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for ASARCO's Rock Creek Project, Copper/Silver Mine, Kootenai National Forest, Sanders County, MT

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare a supplement to the draft environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The USDA Forest Service, Kootenai National Forest (KNF) in conjunction with Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will prepare a Supplement to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for ASARCO's proposal to develop the Rock Creek copper/silver mine project approximately 5 miles northeast of Noxon, Montana.

The original notice of intent was published in the **Federal Register**, Volume 53, No. 9, January 14, 1988. A number of items including lead agency, mine water disposal, release date of the SDEIS have changed since 1988. This revised notice describes the current situation.

The KNF and DEQ are joint lead agencies in this effort. Joint lead status will allow both agencies to fulfill their interrelated responsibilities in managing the process for preparation of the draft, supplement and final EIS documents under the guidelines of the National Environmental Policy Act and the Montana Environmental Policy Act, respectively. The DEQ administers the 1971 Montana Metal Mine Reclamation Act. The purposes of the act are, first, to recognize and protect the usefulness, productivity, and scenic values of the lands and waters within the state and second, to reclaim to beneficial use the lands used for metal mines. The Forest Service has the responsibility for managing the uses of the Federal surface land and resources.

This SDEIS is being prepared because there is new information relevant to environmental concerns about the proposed action (40 CFR part 1502.9(c)(1) (i & ii)). The revised notice of intent to prepare the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) was published in the May 27, 1993, **Federal Register** (Vol. 58, No. 101). The notice of availability for the ASARCO Rock Creek Copper and Silver Mining Project DEIS was published in the October 6, 1995, **Federal Register** (Vol. 60, No. 194).

The public comment received on the DEIS has lead the Agencies to take a look at revising some proposed portions of the operation. A new alternative (Alt. V) has been developed which includes the surface deposition of tailings as a paste, and a water treatment system using a semi-passive bioreactor and a reverse osmosis process. The concentrate from the mill would be pumped to an enclosed rail loadout facility. There are also changes in mitigations for the project which