

Notice of availability of the final EA—  
May 2003  
Ready for Commission's decision on the  
application—May 2003

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 02-23866 Filed 9-19-02; 8:45 am]  
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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. AD02-22-000]

#### Conference on Energy Infrastructure; Notice of Conference

September 13, 2002.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will hold a conference on energy infrastructure issues in the midwestern states on Wednesday, November 13, 2002 at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers, 301 East North Water Street, Chicago, Illinois.

The conference is for the purpose of discussing the adequacy of the electric, gas, and other energy infrastructure in the Midwest.

In addition to specialized panelists, the Governors and state utility commissioners of the midwestern states are being invited to participate. The goal is to identify the current state of infrastructure in the Midwest, present and future infrastructure needs, and the means and barriers to fulfilling those needs. We look forward to an informative discussion of the issues to clarify how we can facilitate and enhance a comprehensive collaborative approach to energy infrastructure development and reliability of the midwestern states. It is our firm belief that an adequate, well-functioning energy infrastructure is necessary to realize workable, competitive markets.

The one-day meeting will begin at 1 p.m. and conclude at 6 p.m. All interested parties are invited to attend. Hotel rooms have been blocked at the Sheraton under the code NAK07 for any attending guests to reserve a one-or two-night stay but will be released by October 13. You can still reserve a room after that date, but on a room and rate availability basis. Reservations can be made by calling 312-329-7000, or their toll free number, 877-242-2558.

To attend, please register online on the Commission Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov/calendar/courses-outreach/coursesoutreach.htm>. Scroll down and click on "Midwest Energy Infrastructure Conference". There is no

registration fee. We will issue further details on the conference, including the agenda and a list of participants, as plans evolve. For additional information, please contact Carol Connors in the Office of External Affairs at [carol.connors@ferc.gov](mailto:carol.connors@ferc.gov).

**Magalie R. Salas,**  
*Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### National Nuclear Security Administration

#### Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Relocation of Technical Area 18 Capabilities and Materials

**AGENCY:** National Nuclear Security Administration, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed Relocation of Technical Area 18 Capabilities and Materials (hereafter referred to as the TA-18 Relocation Final EIS). The TA-18 Relocation Final EIS evaluates the environmental impacts associated with relocating a portion of the TA-18 capabilities and materials to the following alternative locations: (1) A different site at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) at Los Alamos, New Mexico; (2) the Nevada Test Site (NTS) near Las Vegas, Nevada (the preferred alternative); (3) the Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) at Albuquerque, New Mexico; and (4) the Argonne National Laboratory—West (ANL-W) near Idaho Falls, Idaho. The TA-18 Relocation Final EIS also evaluates the alternative of upgrading the existing facilities at TA-18, and the no-action alternative of maintaining the missions at the current TA-18 location.

**DATES:** The NNSA intends to issue a Record of Decision on the TA-18 Final EIS no sooner than 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a notice of filing of the TA-18 Final EIS in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** A copy of the TA-18 Relocation Final EIS or its Summary may be obtained upon request in writing (DOE/NNSA, TA-18 Relocation Final EIS, Attn: Mr. Jay Rose, NA-53, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585); by fax (202-586-5324); by phone (1-800-832-0885,

ext. 65484), or by E-mail ([James.Rose@ns.doe.gov](mailto:James.Rose@ns.doe.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general information on the NNSA NEPA process, please contact: Mr. James J. Mangeno, NNSA NEPA Compliance Officer, U.S. Department of Energy/NNSA, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585; or telephone 1-800-832-0885, ext. 68395. For general information on the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42), DOE, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, telephone 202-586-4600, or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The NNSA is responsible for providing the Nation with nuclear weapons, ensuring the safety and reliability of those nuclear weapons, and supporting programs that reduce global nuclear proliferation. These missions are accomplished through the use of a core team of highly trained nuclear experts. The TA-18 facilities at LANL are the Nation's only facilities capable of performing general-purpose nuclear materials handling and criticality experiments. These experiments provide unique training to a variety of federal agencies, including DOE, NNSA, and Nuclear Regulatory Commission personnel in areas such as nuclear materials safety, emergency response in support of counterterrorism activities, and safeguards and arms control in support of programs aimed at controlling excess nuclear materials.

The TA-18 buildings and infrastructure are near the end of their useful life, and action is required to assess alternatives for continuing these activities for the next 25 years. The TA-18 Relocation Final EIS identifies siting options to assist the NNSA in determining a long-range strategy for maintaining nuclear criticality missions, infrastructure, and expertise currently residing at TA-18.

The TA-18 Relocation Final EIS evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts associated with relocating the TA-18 mission to the the following DOE sites: (1) A different site at LANL; (2) NTS (the preferred alternative); (3) SNL; and (4) ANL-W. The TA-18 Relocation Final EIS also analyzes upgrading the TA-18 facilities at LANL and the no-action alternative of maintaining the operations at the current TA-18 location.

In the Final EIS, the acting Administrator of the NNSA designated the NTS alternative as the preferred

alternative for activities involving Security Category I/II materials, which constitute roughly half of the activities conducted at TA-18. The NTS alternative, which would house four of the five TA-18 experimental reactors in the existing Device Assembly Facility (DAF), was designated the preferred alternative based upon cost, technical, environmental, and mission factors. NNSA's preferred alternative also has the balance of the TA-18 missions, involving mostly Security Category III/IV materials and operations, remaining at LANL.

Signed in Washington, DC this 10th day of September, 2002.

**Everet H. Beckner,**

*Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6633-4]

### Environmental Impact Statements and Regulations; Availability of EPA Comments

Availability of EPA comments prepared 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 12, 2002, (67 FR 17992).

### Draft EISs

*ERP No. D-BLM-K65241-CA Rating LO, Headwaters Forest Reserve, Implementation Resource Management Plan, Long-Term Management Plan and Planning Framework, Located in the northwestern Coast Ranges near Humboldt Bay in Humboldt County, CA.*

*Summary:* EPA supports the plan to maintain the ecological integrity of the Reserve while assuring compatible and adequate public access and recreation opportunities. EPA recommend the Final EIS evaluate in more detail the environmental consequences of the no action alternative and provide a summary of the potential cumulative effects of the proposed management actions.

*ERP No. D-BLM-L03012-AK Rating LO, Renewal of Federal Grant for the*

*Trans-Alaska Pipeline System, Right-of-Way, Approval, AK.*

*Summary:* EPA expressed lack of objections and suggested that the final EIS clarify whether existing stipulations and mitigation measures would be carried forward with renewal of the Federal Grant. EPA also identified additional treaties and law applicable to subsistence issues that should be integrated into the analyses of the final EIS.

*ERP No. D-FHW-G50010-00 Rating LO, I-69 Mississippi River Crossing, Construction, from a western terminus at U.S. 65 near McGehee, AR to an eastern terminus at State Highway 1 near Benoit, MS, U.S. Coast Guard Bridge Permit, U.S. Army Corps Section 10 and 404 Permits, NPDES Permit, Desha County, AR and Bolivar County, MS.*

*Summary:* EPA expressed no objections to the selection of the preferred alternative but has requested clarification and additional information to strengthen the Final EIS.

*ERP No. D1-FHW-F40356-WI Rating EO2, U.S. 10 Highway Improvements between Marshfield and Appleton, Trestik Road—CTH "K" (Stevens Point Bypass), Funding and COE Section 404 Permit, Portage County, WI.*

*Summary:* EPA expressed environmental objections as a result of wetland impacts associated with each build alternative, the lack of a complete conceptual wetland mitigation plan, concerns over cumulative impact analysis, and impacts to endangered species.

### Final EISs

*ERP No. F-AFS-J65313-CO, White River National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan 2002 Revision, Alternative K is the Selected Alternative, Implementation, Eagle, Garfield, Gunnison, Mesa, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit Counties, CO.*

*Summary:* EPA continued to express environmental concerns about potentially adverse cumulative impacts to aquatic and alpine tundra habitat.

*ERP No. F-FHW-F40393-MI, I-96/ Airport Area Access Study, Transportation Improvements, Surrounding the Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Kent County, MI.*

*Summary:* EPA expressed environmental concerns about woodland and stream impacts and the project's ability to satisfy mobility goals.

*ERP No. F-NPS-G03019-TX, Lake Meredith National Recreation Area and Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument Oil and Gas Management*

*Plan, Hutchinson, Moore and Potter Counties, TX.*

*Summary:* EPA has no objections to the selection of the preferred alternative.

Dated: September 17, 2002.

**Joseph C. Montgomery,**

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

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-6633-3]

### Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7167 or <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/>.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements.

Filed September 9, 2002 through September 13, 2002.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

*EIS No. 020385, Draft Supplement, UAF, CA, NM, Airborne Laser (ABL) Program, To Conduct Test Activities at Kirtland Air Force Base (AFB) and White Sands Missile Range/Holloman AFB, New Mexico, and Edwards AFB and Vandenberg AFS, CA, Comment Period Ends: November 5, 2002, Contact: Charles Brown (210) 536-4203. This document is available on the Internet at: "http://www.hqafcee.brooks.af.mil/ec/EIS/ABL/D-SEIS.pdf."*

*EIS No. 020386, Draft EIS, COE, PR, Port of The Americas Project, Development of a Deep-Draft Terminal at the Port of Ponce to Receive Post-Panamax Ships, COE Section 10n and 404 Permits, Municipalities of Guayama-Penuelas and Ponce, Puerto Rico, Comment Period Ends: November 19, 2002, Contact: Edwin E. Muniz (787) 289-7034.*

*EIS No. 020387, Final EIS, EDA, CT, Adriaen's Landing Project, Development from Columbus Boulevard south of the Founders Bridge and Riverfront Plaza, City of Hartford, CT, Wait Period Ends: October 21, 2002, Contact: Beatz C. Roman, (860) 522-4888.*

*EIS No. 020388, Final EIS, DOE, NM, ID, NV, Technical Area 18 (TA-18) Relocation of Capabilities and Materials at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), Operational Activities Involve Research in and the Design, Development, Construction, and Application of Experiments on Nuclear Criticality, NM, NV and ID,*