depressions, channel widening, levees, floodwalls, vegetative berms, low-water dams, and dry dam storage. Structures might be raised or removed from the floodway fringe. Computer models would be used to predict water drainage patterns that would guide future planning in placing structures out of the floodway fringe. The Mill Creek models and data take a composite view of hydrology, hydraulic, and water quality processes occurring in the watershed. This includes future development effects, floodplain locations, erosion, storm water management, and point and non-point sources. Models would be used to compare different types, placement, or of combinations of flood reduction measures to minimize damage to existing and future structures.

3. The Mill Creek watershed is home to the state and Federally listed Nashville Crayfish (*Orconectes shoupi*). This endemic crayfish evolved in Mill Creek and is rarely found outside this watershed. Accelerated development within the watershed has reduced and fragmented the aquatic and riparian habitat of not only this endangered species, but also other native aquatic and riparian communities as well. The Mill Creek models and data would evaluate the impact of changing hydraulics and hydrology on the aquatic ecosystem. The Mill Creek model would be used to find stream locations where restoration and habitat protection measures would be the most successful. Preliminary restoration alternatives under consideration include restoration of wetlands, aquatic, riparian, and terrestrial habitats, sediment management structures, and bank stabilization. Land use changes could be considered to provide a continuous stream corridor that could include a greenway. The study aims to improve the overall health of the stream and its corridor and protect ecologically sensitive habitat of the endangered Nashville crayfish, while also reducing flood damage.

4. Key proposed project features to be evaluated in the DEIS include the following:

a. Flood Damage Reduction measures including peak flow retention structures, low-water dams, channel widening, levees, flood proofing or removing structures out of the floodplain.

b. Protection, enhancement, expansion, or creation of aquatic, riparian, and connected terrestrial habitat for listed species and increased ecosystem diversity.

c. The effects of modifying the flow of Mill Creek on streamside public, private, and commercial properties; fish spawning and nesting areas; adjacent low lying farmlands; creek bank erosion; cultural, archaeological, and historic sites; and overall changes to the hydraulics and hydrology of Mill Creek.

d. Development and use of computer models that predict flooding, identify placement of habitat structures and streambank protection features, and forecast effects of future development on the existing water resources within the watershed.

5. This notice serves to solicit scoping comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received during the comment period will be considered in the NEPA process. Comments are used to assess impacts on fish and wildlife, endangered species, historic properties, water quality, water supply and conservation, economics, aesthetics, wetlands, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, general environmental effects, cumulative effects, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Public meetings may be held, however, times, dates, or locations have not been determined.

6. This notice also serves to initiate the public involvement requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Section 106, implemented by regulations at 36 CFR part 800, requires the Corps of Engineers to consider the effects of its undertakings on historic properties. If required, appropriate architectural and archaeological investigations will be conducted within those areas affected by the proposed activities and resulting findings will be coordinated with the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer and other offices as necessary.

7. Other Federal, state and local approvals required for the proposed work include coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, including a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report and consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act; and state section 401 Water Quality Certification.

8. Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the DEIS include flood damage reduction measures and ecosystem modifications that impact fisheries, endangered species, recreation, economics, water quality, historic and cultural resources, stream bank erosion, future development demands, and cumulative impacts. A DEIS should be available in April 2005.

Byron G. Jorns,

Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of Engineers, District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 03–29418 Filed 11–24–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–GF–M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Teleconference Meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming teleconference meeting of the Reporting and Dissemination Committee of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: December 11, 2003.

Time: 10 a.m., adjournment, approximately, 12 noon.

Location: National Assessment Governing Board; 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite #825, Washington, DC 20001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Munira Mwalimu, Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite #825, Washington, DC 20002–4233, telephone: (202) 357–6938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under section 302 of the National Assessment of Educational Progress Act (Pub. L. 107–279).

The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The Board is responsible for selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, identifying appropriate achievement goals for each grade and subject tested, developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results, establishing standards and procedures for interstate and national comparisons, planning and executing the initial public release of reports, and exercising final authority on the appropriateness of all assessment items. On Thursday, December 11, 2003 the Reporting and Dissemination Committee will hold a teleconference meeting from 10 a.m. to 12 noon to review and approve background

questions proposed for use in assessments to be conducted by the National Assessment of Educational Progress in 2005.

A summary of the activities of the teleconference meeting, and other related matters which are informative to the public and consistent with the policy of the section 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), will be available to the public within 14 days after the meeting. Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite #825, Washington, DC 20002, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST).

Dated: November 20, 2003.

Charles Smith,

Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board.

[FR Doc. 03–29440 Filed 11–24–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4001–01–M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Number DE–PS07–04ID14435]

Nuclear Power 2010 Program—New Nuclear Power Plant Licensing Demonstration Projects

AGENCY: Idaho Operations Office (NE–ID), U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation inviting cooperative agreement applications.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is seeking applications for financial assistance from power generation companies or teams led by power generation companies for projects that enable a new nuclear power plant to be ordered and licensed for deployment in the United States within the decade. For the purposes of this solicitation, project applications are sought which implement a power generation company plan of activities leading to a combined Construction and Operating License (COL) for a new nuclear power plant. The plan is expected to address power generation company activities for design completion of a standardized advanced reactor plant, preparation and submission of a COL application and support of NRC review and hearings associated with the application. For conduct of these projects, DOE encourages innovative business arrangements, such as consortia among power generation companies, plant owners/operators, reactor vendors, architect engineers and constructors with strong and common commitment to build and operate new nuclear power plants in the United States.

DATES: The issuance date of Solicitation Number DE–PS07–04ID14435 will be on November 19, 2003. Applications may be submitted at any time during the open solicitation period, December 20, 2003, through December 31, 2004. Applications will be evaluated as they are received. Merit selection and the issuance of an award may occur anytime during the application acceptance timeframe. Merit selection activities will take approximately six to eight weeks after DOE has received the initial technical application. Issuance of an award is expected to be complete approximately ten weeks after selection. A pre-bid submission briefing for all interested parties has been scheduled on December 11, 2003. This meeting will be held at the Residence Inn located on 550 Army Navy Drive in Arlington, Virginia, phone number: 703–413–6630. The meeting will begin at 1 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The solicitation in its full text will be available on the Internet at the following URL address: *http://e-center.doe.gov.* The Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) provides the medium for disseminating solicitations, receiving financial assistance applications and evaluating the applications in a paperless environment. Completed applications are required to be submitted via IIPS. An IIPS ''User Guide for Contractors'' can be obtained on the IIPS Homepage and then clicking on the ''Help'' button. Questions regarding the operation of IIPS may be e-mailed to the IIPS Help Desk at *IIPS_HelpDesk@e-center.doe.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Layne Isom, Contract Specialist, *isomla@id.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Applications are limited to power companies or teams led by power companies and plant owners/operators with appropriate participation from reactor vendors, other suppliers, architect-engineers and constructors. A fifty percent (50%) minimum industry cost share, consisting of contributions from power generation companies and other participants, is required over the life of the cooperative agreements for all projects. Industry cost share may be provided as cash or as in-kind cost share. Industry cost share may not include other federal funding. In-kind cost share must directly relate to the scope of the specific project. It is anticipated that FY 2004 appropriations for Nuclear Power 2010 activities would contain sufficient funds to make up to $15,000,000 available to fund the first year of the effort anticipated by this solicitation. Subsequent year funding will depend upon future appropriations. The statutory authority for this program is section 31 of the Atomic Energy Act, 42 U.S.C. 2051.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number for this program is 81.121, Nuclear Energy Research, Development and Demonstration.

Issued in Idaho Falls on November 19, 2003.

Michael L. Adams,

Acting Director, Procurement Services Division.

[FR Doc. 03–29402 Filed 11–24–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Oak Ridge Reservation

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Oak Ridge Reservation. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Wednesday, December 10, 2003—7 p.m.

ADDRESSES: DOE Information Center, 475 Oak Ridge Turnpike, Oak Ridge, TN.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pat Halsey, Federal Coordinator, Department of Energy Oak Ridge Operations Office, PO Box 2001, EM–90, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. Phone (865) 576–4025; Fax (865) 576–5333 or e-mail: *halseypj@oro.doe.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board: The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda:

- Discussion of cleanup progress to date
- Plans for FY 2004
- The lifecycle baseline
- Bechtel Jacobs Company closure contract

Public Participation: The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements