

6. City of El Paso, Rio Grande Project, Texas and New Mexico: Amendment to the 1941 and 1962 contracts to expand acreage owned by the city to 3,000 acres; extend terms of water rights assignments; and allow assignments outside city limits under authority of the Public Service Board.

15. Provo Reservoir Water Users Company, Wasatch Irrigation Company, Timpanogas Irrigation Company, Exchange Irrigation Company, Washington Irrigation Company, and the City of Provo; CUP, Utah: Water exchange contracts, water rights in several mountain lakes and reservoirs are being exchanged for equivalent contract water rights in Jordanelle Reservoir.

20. El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1, Rio Grande Project, Texas and New Mexico: Supplemental contract between El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1 and the United States to allow the conversion of project water from irrigation to M&I within the El Paso area.

#### Great Plains Region

Bureau of Reclamation, PO Box 36900, Federal Building, 316 North 26th Street, Billings, Montana 59107-6900, telephone 406-247-7730.

Modified contract actions:

7. City of Rapid City, Rapid Valley Unit, P-SMBP, South Dakota: Contract renewal for up to 55,000 acre-feet of storage capacity in Pactola Reservoir.

13. P-SMBP, Kansas and Nebraska: Initiate negotiations for renewal of long-term water supply contracts with Kansas-Bostwick, Nebraska-Bostwick, Frenchman Valley, Frenchman-Cambridge, and Almena IDs.

14. Northwest Area Water Supply, North Dakota: Long-term contract for water supply from Garrison Diversion Unit facilities. Basis of negotiation is completed and awaiting regional director's signature.

15. Fort Shaw and Greenfields IDs, Sun River Project, Montana: Contract for SOD costs for repairs to Willow Creek Dam. Greenfields ID has signed a 1-year repayment contract for its share of the SOD costs. Have received the approved basis of negotiation from the Commissioner. In the process of negotiating a contract with Fort Shaw ID.

25. Lower Marias Unit, P-SMBP, Montana: Water service contract expired June 1997. Initiating renewal of existing contract for 25 years for up to 480 acre-feet of storage from Tiber Reservoir to irrigate 160 acres. Received approved basis of negotiation from the Commissioner. Currently developing the

contract and consulting with the tribes regarding Water Rights Compact.

29. Belle Fourche Unit, P-SMBP, South Dakota: Negotiations have been held with the Belle Fourche ID to amend their long-term repayment contract deferring their 1997 construction payment and reducing their annual construction payment.

Dated: April 15, 1998.

**Wayne O. Deason,**

*Deputy Director, Program Analysis Office.*

[FR Doc. 98-10589 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

##### Bureau of Reclamation

##### **Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Yakima, WA, INT-DES 98-17**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of draft programmatic environmental impact statement and notice of public hearings.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), has prepared a draft programmatic environmental impact statement (Draft PEIS) for implementing provisions of Phase 2 of the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project (Enhancement Project). The purpose of the Enhancement Project is to meet the competing needs of the Yakima River basin through improved water conservation and management and other appropriate means. The Enhancement Project legislation also authorizes actions on the Yakima Indian Reservation which will result in improvements to their irrigation system and enhance local resources.

**DATES:** Written comments on the Draft PEIS must be submitted by July 22, 1998, to the address listed under the **ADDRESSES** Section. Public hearings to accept oral comments on the Draft PEIS will be held on June 2, 1998, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. in Toppenish, Washington; and on June 3, 1998, from 1 to 3 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. in Yakima, Washington.

**ADDRESSES:** The public hearings will be held at:

- Yakima Indian Nation, Eagle Seelatee Auditorium, 401 Fort Road, Toppenish, Washington.
- DoubleTree Inn, 1507 North First Street, Yakima, Washington.

Copies of the Draft PEIS are available for inspection at the following addresses and at libraries in the project vicinity.

- Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Columbia Area Office, 1917 Marsh Road, Yakima, Washington 98907.
- Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, 1150 N. Curtis Road, Suite 100, Boise, Idaho 83706-1234.

Written comments on the Draft PEIS should be submitted to: Mr. Robert Black D-8580, Bureau of Reclamation, Denver Federal Center, PO Box 25007, Denver, Colorado 80225-0007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Robert Black, Telephone (303) 445-2704.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Those wishing to obtain a copy of the Draft PEIS or schedule time, in advance, to make oral comments at the hearing(s) may contact Mr. Black at the above address and telephone or call toll free to 1-800-861-5443. Speakers will be called in order of their requests. Requests to comment may also be made at each hearing, and speakers will be scheduled to follow the advance requests. Oral comments will be limited to 10 minutes per individual. All oral comments will be included in the hearing record. Written comments will be accepted into the hearing record for 14 days following the public hearing date. These comments may be submitted in addition to review comments made during the 90-day review period and should be identified as hearing comments. Special needs assistance requests should be submitted to Mr. Black by May 15, 1998.

The Draft PEIS evaluates the effects of Title XII of the Enhancement Project legislation. The provisions and measures of the Enhancement Project legislation form the parameters and the methods for achieving the protection, mitigation, and enhancement of fish and wildlife through improved water management, instream flows, water quality, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and improved reliability of irrigation water supplies. Central to this legislation is the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Program which attempts to balance competing demands on the basin's water supply. This voluntary program will reduce demands on the available water supply by promoting conservation measures to improve the efficiency of water delivery and use, instream flows for fish and wildlife, and the reliability of the irrigation water supply.

Specific measures that will be implemented depend upon proposals contained in the water conservation

plans, feasibility investigations of measures selected for consideration, and program criteria. Consequently, the Draft PEIS is a broad scope document to provide "umbrella" coverage for implementing the Enhancement Project with subsequent tiering for NEPA compliance of specific follow-on actions, as appropriate.

Six alternatives, including no action, are considered in the Draft PEIS. The no action alternative is presented as the most likely future condition that could be expected without the implementation of additional Title XII provisions beyond the currently established riverflows, which includes the new operational criteria required by the legislation. This alternative provided the basis for impact comparisons. Five action alternatives present the implementation of all elements of the Enhancement Project at different levels of implementation of project components. A preferred alternative has not been selected in the Draft PEIS. Alternative 1 includes implementation of all the Enhancement Project measures except the Basin Conservation Program. Alternative 2 consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus different levels (Alternatives 2A, 2B, and 2C) of water conservation program implementation at various locations within the Yakima basin. Alternative 2A consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus a 7.5-percent basin-wide reduction in diversion demand (except for the Wapato Irrigation Project and the Yakima-Tieton Canal). Alternative 2B consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus a 15-percent reduction in diversion demand from the Yakima River downstream from the Roza Diversion Dam (except for the Wapato Irrigation Project and the Yakima-Tieton Canal). Alternative 2C consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 plus a 21-percent reduction in diversion demand at diversion points between the Sunnyside and Roza Canals. Alternative 3 consists of all the measures cited in Alternative 1 except for implementation of the Kachess Reservoir augmentation and specific tributary measures.

Environmental consequences that would result from implementation of any of the alternatives should have no significant adverse impacts, such that irrigation contracts will not be modified and any minor adverse impacts identified could be mitigated to a level of insignificance by implementation of mitigation measures. Beneficial impacts are considered to be enhanced water quality, increased streamflow, and overall reinforcement of fish and wildlife habitat, as well as an increase

in the reliability of irrigation water supplies.

Dated: April 13, 1998.

**John W. Keys, III,**

*Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region.*

[FR Doc. 98-10631 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-94-M

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

#### Notice of Proposed Information Collection

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement.

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM) is announcing that the information collection request for the title described below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The information collection request describes the nature of the information collection and the expected burden and cost.

**DATES:** OMB has up to 60 days to approve or disapprove the information collection but may respond after 30 days. Therefore, public comments should be submitted to OMB by May 22, 1998, in order to be assured of consideration.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

To request a copy of the information collection request, explanatory information and related form, contact John A. Trelease at (202) 208-2783, or electronically to [jtreleas@osmre.gov](mailto:jtreleas@osmre.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) regulations at 5 CFR 1320, which implement provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13), require that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). OSM has submitted a request to OMB to renew its approval of the collection of information for the permanent program performance standards—underground mining activities, 30 CFR Part 817. OSM is requesting a 3-year term of approval for this information collection activity.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB

control number. The OMB control number for this collection of information is listed in 30 CFR 817.10, which is 1029-0048.

As required under 5 CFR 1320.8(d), a **Federal Register** notice soliciting comments on these collections of information was published on January 29, 1998 (63 FR 4472). No comments were received. This notice provides the public with an additional 30 days in which to comment on the following information collection activity:

*Title:* Permanent Program

Performance Standards—Underground Mining Activities, 30 CFR Part 817.

*OMB Control Number:* 1029-0048.

*Summary:* Sections 515 and 516 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 provide that permittees conducting surface coal mining operations with underground mining activities shall meet all applicable performance standards of the Act. The information collected is used by the regulatory authority in monitoring and inspecting surface coal mining activities to ensure that they are conducted in compliance with the requirements of the Act.

*Bureau Form Number:* None.

*Frequency of Collection:* On occasion, quarterly and annually.

*Description of Respondents:* 2,837 active underground coal mining operators.

*Total Annual Responses:* 52,690.

*Total Annual Burden Hours:* 183,284.

Send comments on the need for the collections of information for the performance of the functions of the agency; the accuracy of the agency's burden estimates; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collections; and ways to minimize the information collection burdens on respondents, such as use of automated means of collections of the information, to the following addresses. Please refer to the appropriate OMB control number in all correspondence.

**ADDRESSES:** Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Department of Interior Desk Officer, 725 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20503. Also, please send a copy of your comments to John A. Trelease, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1951 Constitution Ave., NW, Room 210-SIB, Washington, DC 20240, or electronically to [jtreleas@osmre.gov](mailto:jtreleas@osmre.gov).

Dated: April 15, 1998.

**Richard G. Bryson,**

*Chief, Division of Regulatory Support.*

[FR Doc. 98-10579 Filed 4-21-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-05-M