

**DATES:** To be considered in preparation for the Record of Decision (ROD), comments must be received not later than June 7, 2004.

**ADDRESSES:** Please direct written comments or requests for copies of the Final Environmental Impact statement (FEIS) to Mr. Richard McDowell, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Army Infantry Center, ATTN: ATZB-PO, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5122 or e-mail to [mcdowellr@benning.army.mil](mailto:mcdowellr@benning.army.mil). Comments may also be submitted via the Fort Benning Web site: [www-benning.army.mil/EMD/dmprcLegal&PublicNotices.htm](http://www-benning.army.mil/EMD/dmprcLegal&PublicNotices.htm) (where the FEIS is also available for review).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Richard McDowell, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Army Infantry Center, ATTN: ATZB-PO, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5122, (706) 545-2211, or e-mail to [mcdowellr@benning.army.mil](mailto:mcdowellr@benning.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Fort Benning is the "Home of the Infantry" and conducts training for elements of Mechanized Infantry Division units. Tank and BFV crews must train and qualify at different skill levels (gunnery tables) that are designed to develop and test the proficiency level of individuals, crews, and platoons. Existing facilities at Fort Benning do not currently meet training standards for advanced gunnery qualification. Specifically, the existing range targetry is antiquated; the natural terrain features of Hastings Range hamper training effectiveness and efficiency; the nearness to the Installation boundary restricts training due to noise; and the lack of digital components on the existing range delays the analysis of the training exercise.

The Army proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a DMPRC. The FEIS analyzes the No Action/Status Quo and two action alternatives. The notice of intent to prepare an EIS for the DMPRC included another alternative, Transport to Fort Stewart; however, further analysis determined that this alternative was not reasonable. Alternatives considered in detail in the FEIS are:

1. No Action—Continue to conduct gunnery training on existing ranges on Fort Benning, utilizing existing facilities.

2. Construct, operate and maintain a DMPRC in Training Compartment K21 on Fort Benning. The range dimensions would be approximately 1,500 meters by 4,500 meters and cover about 1,800 acres plus support facilities; however these dimensions would be subject to site-specific design requirements and may be modified. The DMRPC would include a firing and target area with 3

tank trails, numerous stationary and moving targets, trenches and berms, maintenance roads; a helipad; utilities and communication systems; and support facilities on about 25 acres including control and instruction buildings, maintenance and storage buildings. The DMPRC would include a safety zone that is inaccessible during operation of the range.

3. Preferred Alternative—Construct, operate and maintain a DMPRC in Training Compartment D13 on Fort Benning with the same approximate dimensions and facilities as described for Alternative 2.

Both Alternatives 2 and 3 would also include changes in training on other ranges (Cactus, Carmouche, and Hastings) to incorporate the new DMPRC into the training regime.

The DMPRC FEIS includes analyses of the potential environmental consequences, including cumulative impacts that each alternative may have on many environmental and socioeconomic resources or topics, including: Soils and vegetation, water quality, wetlands and streambanks, unique ecological areas, Federally and state listed species, migratory birds, socioeconomic, land use, cultural resources, utilities, noise, air quality, public health and safety, hazardous materials and wastes, and transportation. The findings indicate that the No Action alternative has the fewest potential impacts because no construction is proposed; however, noise concerns would continue and the needed improvement in range facilities would not be achieved. Alternatives 2 and 3 would have some potential adverse impacts to several of the studied resources; however, mitigations to either avoid or reduce those impacts are identified in the FEIS, and both alternatives would result in less noise disturbance from BFV and tank weaponry firing.

**Joseph H. Plunkett,**

*Director, Southeast Region, U.S. Army Installation Management Agency.*

[FR Doc. 04-10448 Filed 5-6-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory

**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), Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Tuesday, May 18, 2004, 8 a.m.–6 p.m. Wednesday, May 19, 2004, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Opportunities for public participation will be held Wednesday, May 19, from 11:45 to 12 noon and 3 to 3:15 p.m.

Additional time may be made available for public comment during the presentations.

These times are subject to change as the meeting progresses, depending on the extent of comment offered. Please check with the meeting facilitator to confirm these times.

**ADDRESSES:** Willard Arts Center, 498 "A" Street, Idaho Falls, ID 83402.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Peggy Hinman, INEEL CAB Administrator, North Wind, Inc., P.O. Box 51174, Idaho Falls, ID 83405, Phone (208) 557-7885, or visit the Board's Internet home page at <http://www.ida.net/users/cab>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Purpose of the Board:** The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE in the areas of future use, cleanup levels, waste disposition and cleanup priorities at the INEEL.

### Tentative Agenda

Optional tour providing an overall orientation to the site and an opportunity to visit the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project before it goes radioactive. Please contact Ms. Peggy Hinman, listed above, if you would like to participate.

*Tuesday, May 18*

8 a.m.—Welcome and Introductions  
8:45 a.m.—Welcome to New Members  
9:30 a.m.—Orientation to the INEEL SSAB

11:15 a.m.—Agenda Priority Setting for the Next 12 Months

12:15 p.m.—Public Participation

1:30 p.m.—Election of New INEEL Officers

2 p.m.—Agenda Priority Setting for the Next 12 Months (continued)

3 p.m.—Orientation to the INEEL SSAB (continued)

4:15 p.m.—Member and Committee Reports

4:45 p.m.—Orientation to the INEEL SSAB (continued)

5:45 p.m.—Election of New INEEL SSAB officers (continued)

6 p.m.—Adjourn

*Wednesday, May 19*

- 8 a.m.—Agenda Priority Setting for the New Annual Work Plan
- 8:30 a.m.—Environmental Management (EM) Program Status of INEEL
- 9:30 a.m.—Potential Impacts of INEEL Mission on the Cleanup Program
- 10:45 a.m.—Potential Impacts of INEEL Mission on the Cleanup Program (continued)
- 11:30 a.m.—Member and Committee Reports
- 11:45 a.m.—Public Participation
- 1 p.m.—Calcine Treatment
- 1:45 p.m.—Election of New INEEL SSAB Officers (continued)
- 2:15 p.m.—Results of the Final Report on the Glovebox Excavator Method Project
- 2:45 p.m.—Orientation to the INEEL SSAB (continued)
- 3 p.m.—Public Participation
- 3:15 p.m.—Agenda Priority Setting for the Next 12 Months (continued)
- 4 p.m.—Status of Annual Work Plan; Topics for July Meeting; Committee Schedule
- 4:25 p.m.—Action Items; Meeting Evaluation for May Meeting; Success Stories
- 5 p.m.—Adjourn

**Public Participation:** This meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board facilitator either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral presentations pertaining to agenda items should contact the Board Chair at the address or telephone number listed above. Request must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Richard Provencher, Assistant Manager for Environmental Management, Idaho Operations Office, U.S. Department of Energy, is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Every individual wishing to make public comment will be provided equal time to present their comments. This **Federal Register** notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting date due to programmatic issues that had to be resolved prior to the meeting date.

**Minutes:** The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available by writing to Ms. Peggy Hinman, INEEL CAB Administrator, at the address and phone number listed above.

Issued at Washington, DC, on May 3, 2004.

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 04-10446 Filed 5-6-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OAR-2003-0017; FRL-7359-9]

### Protection of Stratospheric Ozone; Process for Exempting Critical Uses of Methyl Bromide

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of solicitation of applications and information on alternatives.

**SUMMARY:** EPA is soliciting applications for the Critical Use Exemption from the phaseout of methyl bromide. This application process offers users of methyl bromide the opportunity to provide technical and economic information to support a "critical use" claim. Methyl bromide is a chemical pesticide that has been identified under the *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* and the Clean Air Act, as an ozone-depleting substance. It is scheduled for complete phaseout by January 1, 2005. The Critical Use Exemption is designed to allow continued production and import of methyl bromide after the phaseout for those uses that have no technically and economically feasible alternatives. Today's solicitation is for the third round of applications for Critical Use Exemptions beyond the January 1, 2005 methyl bromide phaseout, specifically for 2006 and 2007 calendar years. Applicants for the exemption are requested to submit technical and economic information to EPA for U.S. review. The U.S. will then create a national nomination for review by the Parties to the Montreal Protocol. EPA encourages users with similar circumstances of use to submit a single application. Please contact your state regulatory agency to receive information about their involvement in the process.

**DATES:** Applications for the Critical Use Exemption must be postmarked on or before August 8, 2004. The response period is now 90 days reflecting the clarifications and reduction of burden in the application.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications for the methyl bromide Critical Use Exemption should be submitted in triplicate (three copies):

1. *By mail:* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and

Radiation, Global Programs Division (6205J), Attention: Methyl Bromide Review Team, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460, or

2. *By courier delivery (other than U.S. Post Office overnight):* U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and Radiation, Global Programs Division, Attention: Methyl Bromide Review Team, 1310 L St., NW., Washington, DC 20005.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

**General information:** U.S. EPA Stratospheric Ozone Information Hotline, 1-800-296-1996.

**Technical information:** Bill Chism, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs, Biological and Economic Analysis Division (7503C), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 703-308-8136.

**Economic information:** Jin Kim, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs, Biological and Economic Analysis Division (7503C), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 703-308-8134.

**Regulatory information:** Marta Montoro, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Atmospheric Programs, Global Programs Division (6205J), 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-343-9321.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### I. What Do I Need to Know to Respond to this Request for Applications?

##### A. Who Can Respond to this Request for Information?

The Application Form may be submitted either by a consortium representing multiple users or by individual users who anticipate needing methyl bromide in 2005 and believe there are no technically and economically feasible alternatives. EPA encourages users with similar circumstances of use to submit a single application (e.g., any number of pre-plant users with similar soil, pest, and climactic conditions can join together to submit a single application). In some instances, state agencies will assist users with the application process (see discussion of voluntary state involvement in Unit I.B.).

In addition to requesting information from applicants for the Critical Use Exemption, this solicitation for information provides an opportunity for any interested party to provide EPA with information on methyl bromide alternatives (e.g., technical and/or economic feasibility research). The Application Form for the methyl