

Hancock County, MS. The acquired acreage would be used as a Naval Special Operations Forces Training Range where exercises using Short Range Training Ammunition (SRTA) could be conducted. The Navy will conduct two public hearings to receive oral and written comments on the DEIS. Federal, state, and local agencies and interested individuals are invited to be present or represented at the public hearings. Navy representatives will be available to clarify information related to the DEIS. This notice announces the dates and locations of the public hearings for this DEIS.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: Two public hearings will be held. The first public hearing will be on Tuesday, February 17, 2004, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Hancock County Court House, 150 Main St, Bay St. Louis, MS. The second hearing will be on Wednesday, February 18, 2004, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Slidell City Auditorium, 2055 2ND St, Slidell, LA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Richard Davis, Southern Div., Naval Facilities Engineering Command, P.O. Box 190010, North Charleston, SC 29419-9010. Telephone (843) 820-5589, facsimile (843) 820-7472, or E-mail: richard.a.davis1@navy.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A Notice of Intent to prepare this DEIS was published in the **Federal Register**, 68 FR 9998, March 3, 2003. Public scoping meetings were held on March 18, 2003, at the Hancock High School, Kiln, MS and on March 20, 2003, at the Slidell City Auditorium, Slidell, LA.

The proposed action is to purchase 5,200 acres of real estate to establish a riverine and jungle training range for Naval Special Operations Forces where short range training ammunition (SRTA) up to .50 caliber can be conducted. SRTA is a plastic, non-lead, non-explosive projectile with a limited flight profile.

Naval Special Operations Forces would conduct water-to-land SRTA fire training from the East Pearl River into the range and land-to-land SRTA fire would be conducted wholly inside the range perimeter. The following training activities would also occur within the range perimeter: land patrolling and reconnaissance by foot and passenger vehicles; equipment testing and evaluation; immediate action drills; communications drills; use of maritime unmanned aerial vehicles, unmanned riverine observation craft, and High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicles; and insertions and extractions via helicopter. The establishment of an interior range perimeter safety buffer

and "no-fire" sectors along the East Pearl and Mikes Rivers would preclude impacts on adjacent land and water areas outside the range.

Alternatives considered in the DEIS include various sites in the vicinity of the Stennis Space Center. The preferred locational alternative is Alternative Range Location 3—Establishment of training areas along reaches of the East Pearl River and Mikes River. In addition, the DEIS evaluates three training alternatives that address the type and tempo of activities to be conducted on the range. Implementation of the proposed action is not expected to result in any significant short or long term impacts on physical, biological, or socioeconomic resources.

The DEIS has been distributed to various Federal, state, and local agencies, elected officials, and interested parties, and is available for public review at the following libraries: Hancock Public Library, Bay St. Louis Branch, 312 Hwy 90, Bay St. Louis, MS; and St. Tammany Parish Library, Slidell Branch, 555 Robert Blvd, Slidell, LA.

Oral statements presented at the public hearing will be heard and transcribed by a stenographer; however, to ensure the accuracy of the record, all statements should be submitted in writing. All statements, both oral and written, will become part of the public record on the DEIS and will be responded to in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Equal weight will be given to both oral and written statements.

In the interest of available time and to ensure that all who wish to give an oral statement have the opportunity to do so, each speaker's comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If a longer statement is to be presented, it should be summarized at the public hearing and the full text submitted in writing either at the hearing or faxed or mailed to: SBT-22 Range EIS, c/o Commanding Officer, Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, P.O. Box 190010, North Charleston, SC 29419-9010, Attn: Code ES12/RD (Richard A. Davis), telephone (843) 820-5589 or facsimile (843) 820-7472. All written comments postmarked by March 15, 2004, will become part of the official public record and will be responded to in the FEIS.

Dated: January 27, 2004.

J. T. Baltimore,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Meeting of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Executive Panel

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: The CNO Executive Panel is to report the recommendations of the Naval Special Warfare Study Group to the Chief of Naval Operations. This meeting will consist of discussions relating to Naval Special Warfare and its integration with conventional forces.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, February 9, 2004, from 1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the CNO's office, Room 4E540, 2000 Navy Pentagon, Washington, DC 20350-2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lieutenant Commander Christopher Corgnati, CNO Executive Panel, 4825 Mark Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22311, (703) 681-4909.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2), these matters constitute classified information that is specifically authorized by Executive Order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense and are, in fact, properly classified pursuant to such Executive Order. Accordingly, the Secretary of the Navy has determined in writing that the public interest requires that all sessions of the meeting be closed to the public because they will be concerned with matters listed in section 552b(c)(1) of title 5, United States Code.

Dated: January 27, 2004.

J.T. Baltimore,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC04-580-000, FERC Form 580]

Commission Information Collection Activities, Proposed Collection; Comment Request Extension

January 22, 2004.

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of section 3506(c)(2)(a) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is soliciting public comment on the specifics of the information collection described below.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due by March 26, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the proposed collection of information can be obtained from Michael Miller, Office of the Executive Director, ED-30, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426. Comments may be filed either in paper format or electronically. Those parties filing electronically do not need to make a paper filing. For paper filings, the original and 14 copies of such comments should be submitted to the Office of the Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426 and refer to Docket IC04-580-000.

Documents filed electronically via the Internet must be prepared in WordPerfect, MS Word, Portable Document Format, or ASCII format. To file the document, access the Commission's Web site at <http://www.ferc.gov> and click on "Make an E-filing," and then follow the instructions

for each screen. First time users will have to establish a user name and password. The Commission will send an automatic acknowledgement to the sender's e-mail address upon receipt of comments.

All comments may be viewed, printed or downloaded remotely via the Internet through FERC's home page using the eLibrary link. For user assistance, contact FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov or toll-free at (866) 208-3676 or for TTY, contact (202) 502-8659.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Michael Miller may be reached by telephone at (202) 502-8415, by fax at (202) 273-0873, and by e-mail at michael.miller@ferc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Description

The information collected under FERC Form No. 580, "Interrogatory on Fuel and Energy Purchase Practices, Docket No. IN79-6" (OMB Control No. 1902-0137) is used by the Commission to carry out its responsibilities in implementing the statutory provisions of the Federal Power Act (FPA). The FPA was amended by the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (49 Stat. 851; 16 U.S.C. 824d) to require the Commission to review "not less frequently than

every two (2) years * * * of practices * * * to ensure efficient use of resources (including economical purchase and use of fuel and electric energy) * * *." The information is used to: (1) Review as mandated by statute, fuel purchase and cost recovery practices to insure efficient use of resources, including economical purchase and use of fuel and electric energy, under fuel adjustment clauses on file with the Commission; (2) evaluate fuel costs in individual rate filings; (3) to supplement periodic utility audits; and (4) to monitor changes and trends in the electric wholesale market. The information has also been used by the Energy Information Administration under a Congressional mandate to study various aspects of coal, oil, and gas transportation rates. Electric market participants and the public are using the information to assess the marketplace during its transition to a fully competitive regime.

Action: The Commission is requesting a three-year extension of the current expiration date, with no changes to the existing collection of data.

Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this collection is estimated as:

Number of respondents annually (1)	Number of responses per respondent (2)	Average burden hours per response (3)	Total annual burden hours (1)×(2)×(3)
114	*59.5	64	3,648

(114 responses every two years)

Estimated cost burden to Respondents: 3,648 hours ÷ 2,080 hours per year × \$107,185 = \$196,231.

The reporting burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, disclose, or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

The estimate of cost for respondents is based upon salaries for professional clerical support, as well as direct and indirect overhead costs. Direct costs include all costs directly attributable to

providing this information, such as administrative costs and the cost of information technology. Indirect or overhead costs are costs incurred by an organization in support of its mission. These costs apply to the activities which benefit the whole organization rather than any one particular function or activity.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including

the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act.

Magalie R. Salas,

Secretary.

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