

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid; Notice of Meeting

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA).

Date: October 27, 2004 (9:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.).

Location: The National Press Club, 529 14th Street, NW., 13th Floor, Washington, DC 20045.

The meeting's morning session will feature discussions on the humanitarian crisis in Darfur by USAID and PVO officials and a presentation by Ambassador Carlos Pascual on the new Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization in the U.S. Department of State. The afternoon session will feature a discussion on the Global Development Alliance, highlighting success stories and lessons learned. The meeting will close with an update on the Millennium Challenge Account.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Persons wishing to attend the meeting can register online at www.ACVFA.com or e-mail their name to Margaret Hill at Margaret.Hill@triumph-tech.com or Jocelyn Rowe at jrowe@usaid.gov.

Dated: September 30, 2004.

Jocelyn M. Rowe,

Executive Director, Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA).

[FR Doc. 04-22397 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6116-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal And Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. 04-100-1]

Notice of Request for Extension of Approval of an Information Collection

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with regulations governing the introduction of certain genetically engineered organisms and products.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before December 6, 2004.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- **EDOCKET:** Go to <http://www.epa.gov/feddoctet> to submit or view public comments, access the index listing of the contents of the official public docket, and to access those documents in the public docket that are available electronically. Once you have entered EDOCKET, click on the "View Open APHIS Dockets" link to locate this document.

- **Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:** Please send four copies of your comment (an original and three copies) to Docket No. 04-100-1, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3C71, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. 04-100-1.

- **E-mail:** Address your comment to regulations@aphis.usda.gov. Your comment must be contained in the body of your message; do not send attached files. Please include your name and address in your message and "Docket No. 04-100-1" on the subject line.

- **Agency Web Site:** Go to <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/cominst.html> for a form you can use to submit an e-mail comment through the APHIS Web site.

Reading Room: You may read any comments that we receive on this

docket in our reading room. The reading room is located in room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 690-2817 before coming.

Other Information: You may view APHIS documents published in the **Federal Register** and related information, including the names of groups and individuals who have commented on APHIS dockets, on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppd/rad/webrepor.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For information on the regulations governing the introduction of genetically engineered organisms and products, contact Mr. Steven M. Bennett, Management Analyst, Biotechnology Regulatory Services, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 147, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 734-5672. For copies of more detailed information on the information collection, contact Mrs. Celeste Sickles, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, at (301) 734-7477.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: 7 CFR Part 340; Introduction of Organisms and Products Altered or Produced Through Genetic Engineering. *OMB Number:* 0579-0085.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: Under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701-7772), the Secretary of Agriculture may prohibit or restrict the importation, entry, or movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, article, or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction or the dissemination of a plant pest into the United States.

Under that authority, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture administers regulations in 7 CFR part 340, "Introduction of Organisms and Products Altered or Produced Through Genetic Engineering Which Are Plant Pests or Which There Is Reason to Believe Are Plant Pests."

The regulations require that persons who wish to introduce organisms or

products provide certain information through our permitting and notification process. This information includes, among other things, a complete description of the organism or product, the safeguards that will be used in preventing escape, the destination of field test locations, and field test results that describe any unusual or harmful occurrences. We use this information to evaluate the plant pest risk posed by the genetically engineered organisms and products.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of this information collection activities for an additional 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

(1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.9133 hours per response.

Respondents: U.S. importers and shippers of genetically engineered organisms and products and agricultural companies that produce or test genetically engineered organisms or products or that engage in product research and development.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 375.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 7.8133.

Estimated annual number of responses: 2,930.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 2,676 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 30th day of September 2004.

Elizabeth E. Gaston,

Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. E4-2523 Filed 10-5-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Southwestern Region, Arizona, New Mexico, West Texas and Oklahoma: Proposed Forest Plan Amendment to the Land and Resource Management Plan for Natural Gas Resource Development and Leasing Decision on Jicarilla Ranger District, Carson National Forest, Rio Arriba County, NM; Additional Filings

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Revised notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The USDA Forest Service initially published a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** (67 FR 52706–52709, August 13, 2002) for the Proposed Surface Management of Natural Gas Resource Development Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) project on the Jicarilla Ranger District, Carson National Forest. The Draft EIS (DEIS) for this project was released in October 2003. Based on public comments received on the DEIS, the Carson Forest Supervisor determined there was a need to clarify the Purpose and Need for Action and to modify the Proposed Action. This EIS prepared under this Notice of Intent will replace the DEIS that was previously prepared.

The USDA Forest Service will prepare an EIS on a proposal to amend the Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan (hereafter called Forest Plan) to incorporate standards and guidelines for surface management of natural gas resource development on the Jicarilla Ranger District. Additionally, the amendment would include the designation of five geographical areas as "Areas of Resource Concerns" that recognize the unique characteristics of each area and would provide area direction on how to manage these areas. The amendment would incorporate a decision on whether to offer for lease a specified 2,502 acres for which an Expression of Interest has been received, and if offered, with what stipulations. Finally, the proposal would determine if future unleashed acres would be offered for leasing and if leased, identify the

appropriate surface protection stipulations to be added to the lease.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 5, 2004.

The Draft EIS is expected to be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and to be available for public review during the winter of 2005. At that time, EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS in the **Federal Register**. The comment period on the Draft EIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA publishes the Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The Final EIS is scheduled to be completed in early summer of 2005.

ADDRESSES: Address all comments concerning this notice to the Carson National Forest, ATTN: Jicarilla Gas Development EIS, 208 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, NM 87571. E-mail comments may be sent to comments-southwestern-carson@fs.fed.us.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Seesholtz, Forest Planner, Carson National Forest, at (505) 758-6210.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The information presented in this notice is included to help the reviewer determine if they are interested in or potentially affected by the proposed action.

Background

The Jicarilla Ranger District is located in the northwest portion of New Mexico within the San Juan Basin, about 50 miles east of Farmington. The district encompasses over 159,000 acres (including over 6,000 acres of private land) and was incorporated as a part of the Carson National Forest in 1910. During the 1940s and 1950s, exploration for oil and gas began in the San Juan Basin, and subsequently a highly successful natural gas industry developed. Today, natural gas production is the prevalent use on the Jicarilla Ranger District. Currently ninety-eight percent of the Jicarilla Ranger District is leased for mineral development.

Purpose and Need for Action

The mission of the Forest Service, and specifically the Carson National Forest, in relation to minerals management is two-fold: (1) Support, facilitate, and administer the orderly exploration, development, and production of minerals and energy resources on National Forest System Lands to help meet the present and future needs of the Nation; while, (2) Simultaneously protecting the environment and conserving the natural resource legacy (National Energy Policy, 3-1).

On the Jicarilla Ranger District this mission is accomplished in a variety of