

by the Secretary of Commerce. The purpose of this meeting is to review the 1996 Award applications and to select applications to be considered in the site visit stage of the evaluation. The applications under review contain trade secrets and proprietary commercial information submitted to the Government in confidence.

DATES: The meeting will convene August 7, 1996, at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on August 7, 1996. The entire meeting will be closed.

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Administration Building, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Harry Hertz, Director for Quality Programs, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899, telephone number (301) 975-2361.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Assistant Secretary for Administration, with the concurrence of the General Counsel, formally determined on March 29, 1996, that the meeting of the Panel of Judges will be closed pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. app. 2, as amended by Section 5(c) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, P.L. 94-409. The meeting, which involves examination of records and discussion of Award applicant data, may be closed to the public in accordance with Section 552b(c)(4) of Title 5, United States Code, since the meeting is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential.

Dated: July 11, 1996.

Samuel Kramer,
Associate Director.

[FR Doc. 96-18142 Filed 7-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-13-M

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 071096F]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Northern Habitat Panel will hold a public meeting.

DATES: The meeting will be held on July 30, 1996, beginning at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Conference Center of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, 6700 Martin Way East, Olympia, WA; telephone: (360) 438-1180.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Coon, Fishery Management Coordinator (Salmon); telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to discuss and develop recommendations for Council action on regional fishery habitat issues which merit consideration at this time.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Eric Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: July 11, 1996.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 96-18075 Filed 7-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

[I.D. 071096E]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) will convene a public meeting of its salmon stock review team for Puget Sound chinook and Strait of Juan de Fuca coho salmon stocks.

DATES: The meeting will be held on July 31, 1996, beginning at 10 a.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Conference Center of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, 6700 Martin Way East, Olympia, WA; telephone: (360) 438-1180.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 2130 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 224, Portland, OR 97201.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John Coon, Fishery Management Coordinator (Salmon); telephone: (503) 326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this meeting is to complete a review of the status of some Puget Sound chinook and Strait of Juan de

Fuca coho stocks as required under the Council's salmon fishery management plan when a stock fails to meet its spawning escapement objective for 3 consecutive years.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Eric W. Greene at (503) 326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: July 11, 1996.

Richard W. Surdi,

Acting Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 96-18076 Filed 7-16-96; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Notice of Intent to Prepare An Environmental Impact Statement Concerning Interim Storage of Plutonium at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA and the DOE NEPA implementing regulations. DOE has identified a need to provide safe interim storage of approximately 10 metric tons of plutonium at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS). The plutonium at RFETS is in the form of both metals (including plutonium-bearing weapons components known as "pits") and oxides. The 10 metric ton amount includes the current plutonium inventory at RFETS as well as the additional inventory projected to be generated from future processing of plutonium residues into more stable forms suitable for safe storage. DOE intends to prepare an EIS to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with reasonable alternative means of providing the needed storage. **DATES:** The public scoping period begins with the publication of this NOI and will continue until August 16, 1996. Written comments postmarked by that date will be considered in the preparation of the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Comments

postmarked after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

A public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 1996, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at RFETS, Building 60 (located immediately off State Highway 93 at the RFETS west entrance).

ADDRESSES: Written comments or suggestions on the scope of the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS, including issues to be addressed, should be submitted to: Ms. Dorothy Newell, NEPA Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Field Office, Office of Material Stabilization and Disposition (Building 460), P.O. Box 928, Golden, CO 80402-0928, (Facsimile number 303-966-2497).

Envelopes should be marked "Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS".

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS, please contact: Ms. Dorothy Newell, NEPA Document Manager, U.S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Field Office, Office of Material Stabilization and Disposition (Building 460), Telephone number: 303-966-3521.

For general information on the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, Telephone number: 202-586-4600 or leave a message at 800-472-2756.

Addresses of reading rooms where additional Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS information is available are listed in the Public Scoping Process section, below.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DOE announces its intent to prepare an EIS pursuant to NEPA (42 USC 4321, *et seq.*), in accordance with the CEQ Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and the DOE NEPA implementing regulations (10 CFR Part 1021). DOE has identified the need to provide for safe interim storage of the approximately 10 metric tons of plutonium metals (including pits, which are plutonium-bearing weapons components) and oxides currently at the RFETS or projected to be generated from future processing of plutonium residues into more stable forms suitable for safe storage. DOE intends to prepare an EIS to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with alternative reasonable means of providing the needed storage.

DOE also announces its decision to defer completion of a RFETS Site-wide EIS (SWEIS), pending completion of a

new cleanup agreement among DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Colorado for RFETS, and pending decisions that may result from issuance of the *Waste Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (WM PEIS) (DOE/EIS-0200-D, Draft EIS issued August 1995). At the time of the publication of the Notice of Intent (59 FR 40011, August 5, 1994) for the Rocky Flats SWEIS, the Department anticipated that the SWEIS would analyze reasonable alternatives regarding waste management, cleanup, economic conversion, and special nuclear materials (which include plutonium and highly enriched uranium) management activities at RFETS. Because future activities proposed at RFETS are expected to be heavily influenced by the terms of the new cleanup agreement and the programmatic decisions resulting from the WM PEIS, DOE has determined that it is preferable to defer completion of the SWEIS until these decisions are made.

Purpose and Need

RFETS, a Federal Government-owned, contractor-operated facility located near Golden, Colorado, began operations in 1952. RFETS's primary mission was the production of component parts for nuclear weapons. Although weapon component production ceased in 1989, RFETS still has a plutonium metal and oxide inventory (including pits) of 9.8 metric tons stored in six major buildings. In addition, current plans for processing plutonium-bearing residues into a more stable form suitable for storage will result in approximately 0.45 metric tons of plutonium oxide: 0.15 metric tons derived from stabilization of solutions and 0.3 metric tons from stabilization of solid residues.

As discussed further below, the Department needs to improve the storage arrangements for plutonium metals and oxides at RFETS. Although DOE is engaged in a programmatic (Department-wide) evaluation of alternatives for the long-term storage and disposition of plutonium, no decisions regarding long-term storage and disposition have yet been made. The analysis being undertaken by DOE in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS for interim storage of plutonium metals and oxides at RFETS will serve to ensure that decisions on safe and cost-effective interim storage can be made and implemented in the event that long-term storage and disposition decisions, or the implementation of these decisions, should be delayed for any reason.

Background

A number of the buildings at RFETS, including those storing the site's plutonium inventory, are several decades old. In early 1994, RFETS began consolidating its entire plutonium metal and oxide inventory into Building 371, the newest and most structurally sound building at the site. DOE examined issues associated with the consolidation and safe storage of plutonium in Building 371 at levels above the building's historic limit in the *Consolidation and Interim Storage of Special Nuclear Material at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Environmental Assessment* (DOE/EA-1060, June 1995). In addition to enhancing the safety of plutonium storage at RFETS, this consolidation, when completed, will also reduce costs associated with operations, maintenance, and security of storage facilities.

In its Recommendation 94-3 (September 1994), the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, which oversees nuclear safety at DOE sites, questioned the suitability of Building 371 for storage of the RFETS plutonium inventory, in light of the uncertainty of the duration of the storage mission at RFETS. Recommendation 94-3 questioned the ability of Building 371 to withstand certain accident scenarios, especially earthquakes, that could potentially lead to the release of plutonium and pose a hazard to workers, the public, and the surrounding environment. The Board recommended that DOE formulate an integrated program plan to address the civil engineering, structural, seismic, and safety issues related to the storage activities in Building 371 and to specify building upgrades and improvements consistent with the building's storage mission. In response to the Board's recommendations, DOE initiated studies of safer and more cost effective plutonium storage methods at RFETS in parallel with its ongoing consolidation efforts. These studies provide much of the foundation for the preliminary alternatives identified below for ensuring safe interim storage of the RFETS plutonium inventory.

When the Notice of Intent for the SWEIS was published in 1994, DOE intended that the SWEIS would examine the environmental impacts associated with RFETS special nuclear materials management activities (including safe storage), waste management, cleanup, and economic conversion activities. With the exception of plutonium metal and oxide storage issues, the remaining activities

to be analyzed in the SWEIS are likely to be influenced by the new RFETS cleanup agreement and decisions based on completion of the Department's WM PEIS (discussed under "Related Documentation," below). The RFETS cleanup agreement is intended to establish a process for setting enforceable cleanup milestones and accelerating cleanup actions. The WM PEIS (Draft EIS issued August 1995) addresses nationwide Departmental management alternatives for various categories of waste, and RFETS is considered in that document as a potential treatment, storage, and/or disposal location for some waste types. Upon completion of the RFETS cleanup agreement (planned for the summer of 1996) and issuance of Records of Decision for individual waste types for the WM PEIS (scheduled for early 1997), it is expected that the purpose and need, scope, and proposed actions for the RFETS SWEIS will be better defined. Therefore, completion of the SWEIS will be deferred, pending completion of the cleanup agreement and decisions resulting from the WM PEIS.

With regard, however, to the storage of RFETS plutonium metals and oxides, a decision on a course of action to ensure the continued safe interim storage of this material is required sooner than, and independently of, the waste management and land use decisions on which the planned SWEIS analysis would focus. For this reason, DOE has decided to proceed at this time to analyze storage alternatives in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS rather than deferring this analysis to the SWEIS. However, any decisions made following completion of the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS will be included as appropriate in the cumulative impacts analysis in the SWEIS.

The Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS will analyze alternatives for the safe interim storage of RFETS plutonium metals and oxides. Long-term storage and disposition options for these materials are being analyzed in DOE's *Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials Programmatic EIS* (S&D PEIS)(DOE/EIS-0229-D, Draft EIS issued February 1996). Under the No Action alternative in the S&D PEIS, RFETS weapons-usable fissile materials would remain at the RFETS. Other alternatives considered in the S&D PEIS include the transportation and storage of this material to six other DOE sites: the Hanford Site in Washington, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, the Pantex Plant in Texas, the Savannah River Site in South Carolina, the Nevada Test Site, and the Oak Ridge Reservation in Tennessee. Any decisions resulting

from the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS will be consistent with the decisions made as a result of the S&D PEIS analysis. The draft S&D PEIS was issued for public review in February 1996. The final S&D PEIS is scheduled to be completed in November 1996, and the Record of Decision is scheduled for December 1996, before the Record of Decision for the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS.

Public Scoping Process

To ensure that the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS addresses the full range of issues and alternatives related to the safe interim storage of RFETS plutonium metals and oxides, DOE invites all interested persons to submit relevant oral or written comments to Ms. Dorothy Newell at the address listed above. DOE also invites all interested persons to present oral and/or written comments at the public scoping meeting scheduled for August 6, 1996. All written and oral comments will be recorded and given equal weight in preparation of the draft Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS.

Persons desiring to speak at the meeting are requested to submit their written requests by mail or facsimile to Ms. Dorothy Newell, at the address or number listed above, at least two working days before the meeting. Persons who register at the meeting will be called on to speak as time permits, after the pre-registered speakers. This meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 1996, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at RFETS, Building 60 (located immediately off State Highway 93 at the RFETS west entrance). Written comments also will be accepted at the meeting, and speakers are encouraged to provide written versions of their oral comments for the record.

DOE is committed to providing opportunities for the involvement of interested individuals and groups in the preparation of the EIS. DOE will publish additional notices of the date, time, and location of the public scoping meeting in local newspapers well in advance of the scheduled meeting date. If it becomes necessary to change the date, time, or location of the public scoping meeting, the changes will be announced in appropriate media.

DOE will record and prepare transcripts of the oral comments received during the public scoping meeting. Interested persons will be able to review the transcripts, written comments, reference material, related NEPA documents, and background information on RFETS during normal business hours at the following locations:

U.S. Department of Energy, Freedom of Information Room, Room 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, Telephone: 202-586-6020

U.S. Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Public Reading Room, Front Range Community College Library, 3645 West 112th Avenue, Westminster, CO 80030, Telephone: 303-469-4435
Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, Citizens Advisory Board, 9035 Wadsworth Parkway, Suite 2250, Westminster, CO 80021, Telephone: 303-420-7855.

Preliminary Alternatives

Discussed below are the preliminary alternatives identified for safe interim storage of RFETS plutonium metal and oxide. DOE welcomes comments on these or other reasonable alternatives and on the identification of a preferred alternative.

Alternative 1—No Action: As required by Council on Environmental Quality and DOE regulations, the No Action alternative provides a reference point against which the environmental impacts associated with the other alternatives analyzed can be compared. In general, the No Action alternative consists of the continuation of ongoing storage activities and stabilization activities, and the initiation of any new activities for which NEPA analysis has already been completed.

Specifically, the No Action alternative consists of the continued consolidation of plutonium metals and oxides from other buildings into Building 371, and completion of immediate safety upgrades, such as installation of fasteners between beams and repairs to fire doors, in Building 371. The No Action alternative also includes the continuation of RFETS activities associated with the stabilization and repackaging of plutonium metals and oxides in compliance with DOE's Criteria for Safe Storage of Plutonium Metal and Oxide. These criteria include standards for material form, container specifications, packaging, and surveillance and inspection.

Alternative 2—On-Site Storage: In addition to the stabilization and repackaging activities and the immediate safety upgrades addressed in Alternative 1, this alternative would encompass the following two subalternatives:

a. *New Storage Vault*—A new storage vault would be constructed to store the entire RFETS plutonium metals and oxides inventory. Until the vault would be ready for operation, DOE would

continue to consolidate plutonium metals and oxides into Building 371 and undertake minimal structural and system upgrades in addition to those identified under Alternative 1.

b. Building 371 with Seismic Upgrades—DOE would continue to consolidate plutonium metals and oxides into Building 371 and would enhance the building's safety envelope with seismic and safety system upgrades. Upgrades to Building 371 under this subalternative would be more extensive than those defined for Alternative 1 or 2(a).

Alternative 3—Off-site Storage: This alternative incorporates the activities considered in Alternative 1 and provides for the interim storage of the RFETS plutonium metal and oxide at another DOE site. RFETS plutonium metals and oxides, packaged in accordance with the DOE Criteria for Safe Storage of Plutonium Metal and Oxide, would be shipped to one or more of the six sites that are being considered for long-term storage and disposition in the S&D PEIS and that have available storage capacity to meet the interim storage needs for the RFETS materials.

Preliminary Issues To Be Addressed

The Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS will address the impacts of alternatives to the extent necessary to make a reasoned choice among the alternatives. The following preliminary issues are presented to facilitate public discussion of the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS. This presentation is not intended to be all inclusive.

1. Public and Occupational Safety and Health. The potential radiological and non-radiological impacts of the plutonium storage alternatives, including projected effects on workers and the public from routine operations and potential accidents.

2. Environmental Media. Potential impacts on soil, water, and the air.

3. Sensitive Environmental Resources. Potential impacts on plants, animals, and habitat, including impacts to flood plains, wetlands, and threatened and endangered species and their habitat.

4. Resource Consumption. Potential impacts from consumption of natural resources and energy, including water, natural gas, and electricity.

5. Socioeconomic. Potential impacts on local communities, including labor force employment and support services.

6. Environmental Justice. Potential for disproportionately high and adverse impacts of DOE activities on minority and low-income populations.

7. Cultural Resources. Potential impacts on cultural resources, such as

historic, archeological, scientific, or culturally important sites.

8. Regulatory Compliance. The impacts of the alternatives on compliance of RFETS with applicable Federal and state laws and regulations.

9. Cumulative Impacts. The impacts of alternatives in conjunction with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of agency (Federal or non-Federal) or persons undertaking such other actions.

10. Potential Irreversible and Irrecoverable Commitment of Resources. The potential irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources that would be involved in each alternative.

Related Documentation

Documents that have been or are being prepared that may relate to the scope of the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS include the following:

1. *Consolidation and Interim Storage of Special Nuclear Material at Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Environmental Assessment* (DOE/EA-1060) and Finding of No Significant Impact, issued June 1995. This Environmental Assessment addressed the stabilization and repackaging of plutonium metals and oxides and their consolidation into Building 371. These activities are in the baseline for the No Action alternative for the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS.

2. *Actinide Solution Processing at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Environmental Assessment* (DOE/EA-1039) and Finding of No Significant Impact, issued June 1994. This Environmental Assessment addressed the processing of approximately 30,000 liters of residue solutions at the RFETS. Decisions made as a result of this analysis are in the baseline for the No Action alternative and will generate approximately 0.15 metric tons of plutonium oxides, the storage of which will be considered in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS.

3. *Solid Residue Treatment, Repackaging, and Storage Environmental Assessment* (DOE/EA-1120) and Finding of No Significant Impact, issued April 1996. This Environmental Assessment addressed the stabilization of the solid residue inventory and its packaging to meet the interim safe storage criteria. Decisions made as a result of this analysis are in the baseline for the No Action alternative and will generate approximately 0.3 metric tons of plutonium oxides, the storage of which will be considered in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS.

4. *Draft Storage and Disposition of Weapons-Usable Fissile Materials Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (S&D PEIS) (DOE/EIS-0229-D, February 1996). This EIS analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with approaches to long-term storage and disposition of the Department's weapons-usable fissile materials, including plutonium. Under the S&D PEIS No Action alternative, RFETS plutonium metals and oxides would remain at the RFETS. Under all other alternatives, RFETS material would be stabilized and packaged in accordance with the DOE Criteria for Safe Storage of Plutonium Metal and Oxide and transferred to another selected DOE site. The alternative sites include the Hanford Site in Washington, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, the Pantex Plant in Texas, the Savannah River Site in South Carolina, the Nevada Test Site, and the Oak Ridge Reservation in Tennessee. Any decisions resulting from the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS will be consistent with DOE decisions made as a result of the S&D PEIS. The S&D PEIS Record of Decision is scheduled to be issued in December 1996.

5. *Rocky Flats Site-wide Environmental Impact Statement Notice of Intent* (59 FR 40011, August 5, 1994). This Notice announced DOE's intention to prepare a SWEIS for RFETS. A SWEIS is a broad-scope, programmatic NEPA document that identifies and assesses individual and cumulative environmental effects of ongoing and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The Notice described the intended scope of the RFETS SWEIS as providing a basis for selection of a site-wide strategic approach for nuclear materials storage, waste management, cleanup, and economic conversion, as well as project-level decisions for land use, management of nuclear materials, deactivation of RFETS facilities, decontamination and decommissioning of existing facilities, and possible on-site and off-site transportation of radioactive, hazardous, and mixed waste. For the reasons noted above, the scope of the SWEIS is being modified so that issues associated with the safe interim storage of RFETS plutonium will be analyzed in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS, and completion of the SWEIS has been deferred pending completion of a new RFETS cleanup agreement and decisions based on completion of the WM PEIS.

6. *Draft Waste Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (WM PEIS) (DOE/EIS-0200-D, August 1995). The WM PEIS considers programmatic aspects of

managing DOE waste; alternatives regarding the treatment, storage, and/or disposal of low-level, low-level mixed, hazardous, transuranic, and high-level waste are analyzed. While waste may be generated under the alternatives discussed in the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS, DOE expects that the amount would be small. Therefore, the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS will not materially impact the scope of the WM PEIS. Records of Decision based on the WM PEIS are scheduled for early 1997. Decisions to be made as a result of the Rocky Flats Plutonium Storage EIS will be coordinated with the decisions resulting from the WM PEIS.

7. *Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 94-3, Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, Implementation Plan: Task 3, Study Site Storage Alternatives. Material Form and Packaging Alternatives* (Deliverable 3-2a, November 22, 1995). As part of DOE's Implementation Plan for Board Recommendation 94-3, this study analyzes whether changes in material form and packaging could be used, in conjunction with building and location alternatives, to control the risk of interim storage of excess plutonium and highly enriched uranium at RFETS.

8. *Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 94-3, Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, Implementation Plan: Task 3, Study Site Storage Alternatives, Interim Plutonium Storage Vault Alternatives Evaluation* (Deliverable 3-2b, November 21, 1995). As part of DOE's Implementation Plan for Board Recommendation 94-3, this study identifies feasible facility alternatives for the interim storage of the RFETS plutonium and highly enriched uranium inventories.

Issued in Washington, DC, this 11 day of July 1996.

Tara O'Toole,

Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 96-18109 Filed 7-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Fonet, Inc.; Notice of Intent To Grant Exclusive Patent License

AGENCY: Department of Energy, Office of the General Counsel.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of an intent to grant to Fonet, Inc. of Clearwater, Florida, an exclusive license to practice the invention described in U.S. Patent No. 5,205,624, entitled "Material Isolation Enclosure." The invention is owned by the United States of America, as represented by the Department of Energy (DOE).

DATES: Written comments or nonexclusive license applications are to be received at the address listed below no later than September 16, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Office of Assistant General Counsel for Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert J. Marchick, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property, U.S. Department of Energy, Forrestal Building, Room 6F-067, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585; Telephone (202) 586-4792.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 35 U.S.C. 209(c) provides the Department with authority to grant exclusive licenses in Department-owned inventions, where a determination can be made, among other things, that the desired practical application of the invention has not been achieved, or is not likely expeditiously to be achieved, under a nonexclusive license. The statute and implementing regulations (37 CFR part 404) require that the necessary determinations be made after public notice and opportunity for filing written objections.

Fonet, Inc., of Clearwater, Florida, has applied for an exclusive license to practice the invention embodied in U.S. Patent No. 5,205,624, and has a plan for commercialization of the invention. The patent is entitled "Material Isolation Enclosure," useful for isolating hazardous materials, including toxic substances and certain biological materials. The patent relates to an enclosure similar to a glovebox for isolating materials from the atmosphere, yet allowing a technician to manipulate the materials located inside the enclosure.

The exclusive license will be subject to a license and other rights retained by the U.S. Government, and other terms and conditions to be negotiated. DOE intends to grant the license, upon a final determination in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 209(c), unless, within 60 days of this notice, the Assistant General Counsel for Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property, Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, receives in writing any of the following, together with supporting documents.

- (i) A statement from any person setting forth reasons why it would not be in the best interests of the United States to grant the proposed license; or
- (ii) An application for a nonexclusive license to the invention, in which applicant states that he has already

brought the invention to practical application or is likely to bring the invention to practical application expeditiously.

The Department will review all timely written responses to this notice, and will grant the license if, after consideration of written responses to this notice, a determination is made that the license grant is in the public interest.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 10, 1996.

Agnes P. Dover,

Deputy General Counsel for Technology Transfer and Procurement.

[FR Doc. 96-18108 Filed 7-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. CP94-260-007 and RP95-310-003]

Algonquin Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Compliance Filing

July 11, 1996.

Take notice that on June 20, 1996, Algonquin Gas Transmission Company (Algonquin) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Fourth Revised Volume No. 1, the following tariff sheets, proposed to be effective July 1, 1996:

Sixth Revised Sheet No. 20
 First Revised Original Sheet Nos. 36-37
 Sheet Nos. 38-39
 Third Revised Sheet No. 100
 Sheet Nos. 238-240
 First Revised Original Sheet Nos. 241-248
 Sheet No. 249-599
 Fourth Revised Sheet Nos. 678-680
 Third Revised Sheet No. 680A
 Third Revised Sheet No. 710
 Fourth Revised Sheet No. 712
 Third Revised Sheet No. 799
 Sheet Nos. 936-939
 First Revised Original Sheet Nos. 940-946
 Sheet Nos. 947-1099

Algonquin states that the purpose of this filing is to comply with the Commission's order issued June 13 in Docket Nos. CP94-260-000 and RP95-310-00, *et al.* In that order, the Commission directed Algonquin to file tariff sheets effective July 1, 1996, within seven days of the date of the order. Algonquin requests that the Commission grant any waiver that may be necessary to place these tariff sheets into effect on the date requested.

Algonquin states that copies of the filing were mailed to all customers of Algonquin and interested state commissions.

Any person wishing to protest this filing should file a protest with the