

(LLW), mixed low-level waste (MLLW), Transuranic (TRU) waste, and immobilized low activity waste to support clean up at Hanford and to assist other DOE sites in completing their cleanup programs. DOE decided in the ROD to (1) limit the volumes of LLW and MLLW received at Hanford from other sites for disposal; (2) dispose of LLW in lined disposal facilities, a practice already used for MLLW; (3) construct and operate a lined, combined-use disposal facility (previously referenced in this Notice of Intent as the "Integrated Disposal Facility") in Hanford's 200 East Area for disposal of LLW and MLLW, and further limit offsite waste receipts until the IDF is constructed; (4) treat LLW and MLLW (requiring treatment) at either offsite facilities or existing or modified facilities, as appropriate; and (5) use existing and modified onsite facilities to store, process, and certify TRU waste for subsequent shipment to the DOE Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

- Environmental Impact Statement for Retrieval, Treatment, and Disposal of Tank Waste and Closure of Single-Shell Tanks at the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington (DOE/EIS-0356). This EIS will evaluate the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action and range of reasonable alternatives, including no action, to treating and disposing of the subject tank waste and the safe management and closure of the subject tanks. The document is currently in development and a draft EIS has not yet been issued.

Public Reading Rooms

Documents referenced in this Notice of Intent and related information are available at the following locations: DOE Reading Room, WSU Tri-Cities, 2710 University Drive, Richland, Washington 99352, 509-372-7443; and the U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters Public Reading Room, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 1E-190 (ME-74) FORS, Washington, DC 20585, 202-586-3142.

Issued in Washington, DC on August 9, 2004.

John Spitaleri Shaw,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Environment, Safety and Health.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Amended Record of Decision for the Department of Energy's Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Accomplishing Expanded Civilian Nuclear Energy Research and Development and Isotope Production Missions in the United States, Including the Role of the Fast Flux Test Facility, DOE/EIS-0310

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Amended record of decision.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to 10 CFR 1021.315, its implementing regulations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), is amending its Record of Decision (ROD) (66 FR 7877, January 26, 2001) for its Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Accomplishing Expanded Civilian Nuclear Energy Research and Development and Isotope Production Missions in the United States, Including the Role of the Fast Flux Test Facility (Nuclear Infrastructure (NI) PEIS). DOE had decided to transport neptunium-237 (Np-237), after conversion to neptunium oxide (NpO₂), from DOE's Savannah River Site (SRS) to the Radiochemical Engineering Development Center (REDC) at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) for use in production of plutonium-238 in the future. Np-237 is categorized as special nuclear material (SNM). After the September 11, 2001, terrorist attack, storage of all SNM requires additional security and safeguards. Since REDC does not meet security requirements for storage of SNM, it would require costly security upgrades to qualify for safe storage of NpO₂. DOE's Argonne National Laboratory-West (ANL-W) site, located in Idaho, meets the security requirements for storage of SNM, currently stores such materials, and has the storage space available for storage of NpO₂.

DOE prepared a Supplement Analysis (SA) for the NI PEIS for the change of storage location of NpO₂ from REDC to ANL-W (DOE/EIS-0310-SA-01) to determine whether further NEPA review is required. DOE has determined that no additional NEPA review is necessary because the relocation and change in storage location does not constitute a substantial change in the original proposed action, and the impacts analyzed in the NI PEIS bound the impacts of transfer to and storage at the new proposed storage location. Therefore, DOE has decided to change its decision on the storage location for NpO₂ from REDC to ANL-W.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information on this project or to receive copies of the SA, initial ROD, or this Amended ROD contact: Dr. Rajendra Sharma, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, Maryland 20874, telephone (301) 903-2899, fax (301) 903-5005, e-mail: Rajendra.Sharma@nuclear.energy.gov. For general information on the DOE NEPA process, contact Ms. Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance, EH-42/Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-0119, telephone (202) 586-4600 or leave a message at (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The SRS has the remaining domestic inventory of recovered Np-237 which is no longer useable at that site because production of Pu-238 is no longer possible since the reactors have been shutdown. To support the future production of Pu-238 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and national security missions, DOE must convert this material to neptunium oxide (NpO₂), a stable form, that can be safely stored and used later to produce Pu-238. The NpO₂ also needs to be relocated and stored at a site that meets the security requirements for storage of SNM (Np-237 is categorized as SNM) and is readily available for production of Pu-238. After analyzing various alternatives, DOE originally selected REDC, located at ORNL, for storage of NpO₂. However, REDC no longer meets the security requirements for storage of SNM and would have to incur costly upgrades to comply with such requirements. ANL-W site in Idaho already stores SNM and meets the enhanced security requirements for storage of SNM.

The proposed plan calls for the shipment of approximately 70 drums containing small cans of NpO₂ to ANL-W beginning in FY 2004 and ending in FY 2006. For shipment from SRS, one to three (depending on mass of neptunium, no more than 6 kg) crimp-sealed can(s) of NpO₂ will be placed inside a 35-gallon shipping drum. The drums will be transported to ANL-W where the material will be stored until needed for Pu-238 production.

Basis for Decision

DOE has prepared a SA (DOE/EIS-0310-SA-01) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and DOE regulations

implementing NEPA. CEQ regulations at title 40, section 1502.9(c) of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR 1502.9(c)) require Federal agencies to prepare a supplement to an EIS when an agency makes substantial changes in the proposed action that are relevant to environmental concerns or there are significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed action or its impacts. DOE regulations at 10 CFR 1021.314(c) direct that when it is unclear whether a supplement to an EIS is required, an SA be prepared to determine whether an EIS should be supplemented; a new EIS should be prepared; or no further NEPA documentation is required. The SA analyzed whether this transportation and storage (change of NpO₂ storage location from ORNL to ANL-W) is substantially relevant to environmental concerns and whether a supplement to the NI PEIS should be prepared. The environmental impacts of shipment of NpO₂ from SRS were analyzed in the NI PEIS for several storage locations including FDPF and CPP-651 storage vault at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL). The ANL-W site is in close proximity of FDPF and CPP-651. The transportation route and distance from SRS to ANL-W is virtually identical to FDPF/CPP-651. Because the impacts of shipment to and storage at FDPF/CPP-651 at INEEL were analyzed in the NI PEIS, the impacts for shipment to and storage at ANL-W are expected to be virtually the same. In addition, ANL-W currently stores SNM and meets the security requirements for storage of SNM. This change of storage location for NpO₂ would obviate the need for costly security upgrades at ORNL.

Decision

On the basis of the SA and the analyses conducted in NI PEIS, DOE has determined that the proposed change in storage location of NpO₂ from REDC to ANL-W would not require further review under NEPA. The impacts due to relocation and storage of NpO₂ would be no greater than those assessed in the NI PEIS.

DOE is issuing this amendment to the original ROD to announce the change of storage location for NpO₂ from REDC to ANL-W.

Issued in Washington, DC, August 5, 2004.

William D. Magwood, IV,

Director, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP96-200-127]

CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Negotiated Rate Filing

August 9, 2004.

Take notice that on August 4, 2004, CenterPoint Energy Gas Transmission Company (CEGT) tendered for filing and approval certain negotiated rate agreements between CEGT and Entergy Arkansas, Inc., Entergy Louisiana, Inc. and Entergy Gulf States, Inc. CEGT states that it has entered into several agreements to provide service to these shippers to be effective August 5, 2004.

CEGT indicates that it tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Sixth Revised Volume No. 1, Third Revised Sheet No. 685, to be effective August 5, 2004.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed in accordance with the provisions of Section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations (18 CFR 154.210). Anyone filing an intervention or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant. Anyone filing an intervention or protest on or before the intervention or protest date need not serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically should submit an original and 14 copies of the protest or intervention to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426.

This filing is accessible on-line at <http://www.ferc.gov>, using the "eLibrary" link and is available for review in the Commission's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC. There is an "eSubscription" link on the Web site that enables subscribers to receive e-mail notification when a document is added to a subscribed

docket(s). For assistance with any FERC Online service, please e-mail FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, or call (866) 208-3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502-8659.

Magalie R. Salas,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-1821 Filed 8-12-04; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP04-440-000]

Gas Transmission Northwest Corporation; Notice of Proposed Changes In FERC Gas Tariff

August 9, 2004.

Take notice that on August 4, 2004, Gas Transmission Northwest Corporation (GTN) tendered for filing as part of its FERC Gas Tariff, Third Revised Volume No. 1-A, the tariff sheets listed on Appendix A to the filing, to become effective September 3, 2004.

GTN states that the purpose of this filing is to correct, update or remove certain outdated Tariff provisions contained in GTN's Tariff and to make other minor "housekeeping" changes.

GTN states that a copy of this filing has been served on GTN's jurisdictional customers and interested State regulatory agencies.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest this filing must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214). Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed in accordance with the provisions of section 154.210 of the Commission's regulations (18 CFR 154.210). Anyone filing an intervention or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Applicant. Anyone filing an intervention or protest on or before the intervention or protest date need not serve motions to intervene or protests on persons other than the Applicant.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper using the "eFiling" link at <http://www.ferc.gov>. Persons unable to file electronically