

*Affected Public:* Business Or Other For-Profit.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 5,391.

*Number of Respondents:* 434.

*Responses per Respondent:* 13.

*Average Burden per Response:* 20 minutes.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Freight carriers furnish information in a uniform format so that the Government can determine the cost of transportation, accessorial, and security services and select the best value carriers for 1.1 million Bill of Lading shipments annually. Additionally, DoD tender rate and other pertinent tender data are noted on the Bill of Lading at the time of shipment. The DoD tender also is the source document for the General Services Administration post-shipment audit of carrier freight bills.

**Luz D. Ortiz,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3710-8-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### ARMS Initiative Implementation; Meeting

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the next meeting of the Armament Retooling and Manufacturing Support (ARMS) Executive Advisory Committee (EAC). The EAC encourages the development of new and innovative methods to optimize the asset value of the Government-Owned, Contractor-Operated ammunition industrial base for peacetime and national emergency requirements, while promoting economical and efficient processes at minimal operating costs, retention of critical skills, community economic benefits, and a potential model for defense conversion. This meeting will be hosted by the U.S. Army, Operations Support Command. The purpose of the meeting is to update the EAC and public on the status of ongoing actions, new items of interest, and suggested future direction/actions. Topics for this meeting will include—Policy on Ownership of Property; ARMS Revenue and Revenue Projects; ARMS Approval Process; and Arsenal Support Program Initiative Update. This meeting is open to the public.

*Date of Meeting:* October 4-5, 2001.

*Place of Meeting:* Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 1900 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, VA 22209.

*Time of Meeting:* 8:30 a.m. -5 p.m. on October 4 and 7:30 a.m.-12 p.m. on October 5.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Mike Perez, U.S. Army Operations Support Command, Attn: AMSOS-CCM-E, Rock Island Arsenal, IL 61299, phone (309) 782-3360.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn for the nights of 2-5 October 2001. The Holiday Inn Rosslyn is located at 1900 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, VA 22209, Local Phone (703) 807-2000. Please make your reservations by calling 800-368-3408. Be sure to mention the guest code acronym AMC. Reserve your room prior to September 11th to get the Government Rate of \$119.00 a night. Also notify this office of your attendance by notifying Mike Perez, [perezxm@osc.army.mil](mailto:perezxm@osc.army.mil), 309-782-3360 (DSN 793-3360). To insure adequate arrangements (transportation, conference facilities, etc.) for all attendees, we request your attendance notification with this office by September 14, 2001. Corporate casual is meeting attire.

**Luz D. Ortiz,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 01-21695 Filed 8-27-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3710-08-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Missouri River Master Water Control Manual Review and Update

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and implementing regulations, a Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIS) has been prepared to evaluate the environmental impacts of changes in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) operation of the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System. The Missouri River Master Water Control Manual (Master Manual) specifies the operating criteria for the operation of six Corps dams on the mainstem of the Missouri River. The original Master Manual was published in December 1960. Revisions were made in 1973 and

1975 and a revised Master Manual was published in 1975. The existing Master Manual establishes guidelines for operation of the reservoir system for the multiple project purposes of flood control, hydropower, water supply, water quality, irrigation, navigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife. In addition, the existing Master Manual includes criteria for how reservoir storage is divided and how water is released from the reservoirs during navigation and nonnavigation periods. Each year an Annual Operating Plan is developed using the water control plan outlined in the Master Manual as a guide. During the period 1987-1993, the Missouri River basin experienced a moderate to severe drought. There were numerous lawsuits concerning the Corps operation of the reservoirs. In November 1989, the Corps initiated a Review and Update of the Master Manual and published a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in 1994. In response to public comment and requests for additional studies received during the comment period following publication of the DEIS, the Corps has revised that document. The RDEIS analyzes the environmental effects of a set of six alternative operating plans for the Master Manual—the current water control plan (CWCP), a modified conservation plan (MCP), and four alternatives that add various Gavins Point Dam releases to the MCP. These latter four alternatives, referred to as the GP options, address changes in water releases from Gavins Point Dam that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) recommended in their November 2000 Final Biological Opinion (BiOp) for the Corps operation of three Missouri River basin projects. The USFWS feels these changes in releases, in conjunction with other operational and non-operational measures, are necessary to ensure that the Corps operation of the Mainstem Reservoir System is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species or result in the destruction or modification of critical habitat for the listed species.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions regarding the RDEIS may be sent to Rosemary Hargrave, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division, 12565 West Center Road, Omaha, Nebraska 68114-3869. Ms. Hargrave can also be contacted by telephone at (402) 697-2527, or email at [rosemary.c.hargrave@usace.army.mil](mailto:rosemary.c.hargrave@usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Missouri River originates at Three Forks, Montana and travels 2,341 miles to its confluence with the Mississippi

River near St. Louis, Missouri, draining one sixth of the United States. The Mainstem Reservoir System consists of six dams and reservoirs located in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska. The System has the capacity to store 73.4 million acre-feet of water, which makes it the largest system of reservoirs in North America. Water flowing down the Missouri River is stored in the six lakes and released as needed for project purposes. The planes of conflict surrounding the revision of the Master Manual are numerous, complex, and contentious. While the basin has made historic progress during the last decade, significant controversy still remains. Much controversy centers on proposed changes in spring and summer releases from Gavins Point Dam for three species provided protection under the Endangered Species Act.

There are 30 federally recognized Native American Tribes in the Missouri River Basin. Thirteen reservations are located on the mainstem of the Missouri River. The Tribes are dependent sovereign nations and also have a Trust relationship with the Corps. The Corps is currently in government-to-government consultation with five Tribes, and urges all of the basin Tribes to enter into consultation with Corps. The RDEIS specifically identifies impacts to Tribes resulting from changes in the operation of the Mainstem Reservoir System. Tribal participation during the public comment period will be developed in partnership with the Tribes.

A 6-month public comment period will follow release of the RDEIS. Oral, written, and electronic comments will be accepted until February 28, 2002. Prior to this date, the Corps will hold Tribal and public informational workshops and hearings throughout the Missouri River basin and at some Mississippi River locations. Dates and locations of these workshops will be provided in a September newsletter and on the Corps' Northwestern Division web page at <http://www.nwd.usace.army.mil>.

**Luz D. Ortiz,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Las Americas Transshipment Port Complex Being Proposed by the Puerto Rico Infrastructure Financing Authority (AFI, Acronym in Spanish)

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** AFI is proposing the development of the Las Americas Transshipment Port Complex in Puerto Rico. The proposal includes the development of hubs at one or more sites on the south coast of Puerto Rico, in the Municipalities of Ponce, Peñuelas, and Guayanilla. At the proposed site(s), the proposed terminals would need Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act permits. There is a possibility that permits pursuant to Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act may be required for at one or more sites.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Edwin E. Muñiz, (787) 729-6905/6944, Chief, Antilles Regulatory Section, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 400 Fernandez Juncos Avenue, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In September 1999, the Corps of Engineers published a report titled Preliminary Transshipment Port Assessment for Puerto Rico. This study was performed at the request of the Puerto Rico Ports Authority (PRPA). This report includes a preliminary assessment of alternative sites for a potential new transshipment port to be located in Puerto Rico. The sites considered were locations that have the potential to support deep-draft navigation and associated facilities. A total of thirteen sites were considered. The assessment was based on available information combined with the professional knowledge of the Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District staff, in the planning of waterway systems and associated port development. The assessment was considered preliminary in nature, and it was not prepared to be used as the sole source of information from which to make a final site selection. Nevertheless, the assessment made a recommendation on the most suitable sites. The assessment also recommended further studies that will help provide the additional detailed information required for making a more

informed decision concerning the most appropriate location for a future transshipment site.

AFI is proposing the development of the Las Americas Transshipment Port Complex in Puerto Rico. The proposal includes the development of hubs at one or more sites on the south coast of Puerto Rico, in the Municipalities of Ponce, Peñuelas and Guayanilla. AFI stated that a transshipment port complex would represent a major infrastructure development for all Puerto Rico, especially in the south coast of the island.

In the development of a transshipment port complex, there would be considerable dredge and fill activities in the proposed project area, impacting significant wetlands and other special aquatic sites, and other resources. The proposed action may significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) and/or growth and distribution of population, may have significant adverse effects on wetlands, including indirect and cumulative effects, or any major part of a structure or facility constructed or operated under the proposed action may be located in wetlands. Also, the proposed action may significantly affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats identified in the Department of the Interior's list.

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act structures the Corps of Engineers has regulatory authority over structures and/or work in or affecting navigable waters of the United States. Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, the Corps of Engineers has regulatory authority to permit the discharge of dredged or fill material into wetlands and other waters of the United States. Also, under Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, the Corps of Engineers has regulatory authority over the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of dumping it in ocean waters at dumping sites designated under 40 CFR part 228. The guidelines pursuant to section 404(b) of the act require that impacts to the aquatic environment be avoided and minimized to the extent practicable. Permit applications for the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of dumping it in ocean waters will be evaluated to determine whether the proposed dumping will unreasonably degrade or endanger human health, welfare, amenities, or the marine environment, ecological systems or economic potentialities.