

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.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Gold Camp Road Final Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of availability and decision.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Pike National Forest of the Rocky Mountain Region of the Forest Service announces availability of the Final Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final Plan/EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD) for the Gold Camp Road. The Forest Service is also announcing the agency's decision to restore and reopen a collapsed railroad tunnel and reopen a closed section of Gold Camp Road to one-way traffic, with a third party partner to operate the segment of road (Modified Alternative E). The objective of the management plan for the road is to best accommodate public use and access to National Forest System lands and nearby private in-holdings while maintaining public safety and the historic character of the road. The affected road segment has been closed since 1988 for safety reasons.

DATES: The appeal period for the decision will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) publishes the notice of availability and decision in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: The Final Plan/EIS and ROD are available on the Internet at http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/psicc/projects/gold_camp/. Copies of the Final Plan/EIS and ROD may be obtained by contacting the Pikes Peak Ranger District, 601 S. Weber St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903. Notice of Appeal must be sent to: USDA-Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region, Attn: Appeals

Deciding Officer, P.O. Box 25127, Lakewood, Colorado 80225.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Frank Landis, Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner, Pikes Peak Ranger District, at the address listed above or by telephone at 719-477-4203.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final Plan/EIS and ROD are also available for inspection at the following public libraries in Colorado:

Penrose Public Library—20 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903.

East Library—5550 N. Union Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80918.

The Forest Service announced in the **Federal Register** (69 FR 39401, June 30, 2004) that the agency intended to prepare an EIS addressing the possible federal action of preparing a plan for the Gold Camp Road and inviting comments on the scope of the EIS. Comments were received from April 12 through August 17, 2004, and were considered in the Draft Plan/EIS.

Notices of availability were published in the **Federal Register** for the Gold Camp Road Draft Plan/EIS by the Forest Service (70 FR 2605, January 14, 2005) and the EPA (70 FR 4119, January 28, 2005). Comments were accepted on the Draft Plan/EIS through March 29, 2005. Comments were considered and the Final Plan/EIS was prepared based on agency and public input. The Final Plan/EIS contains a new preferred alternative that incorporates elements of three of the other action alternatives.

A ROD accompanies the Final Plan/EIS. The ROD accompanying the Final Plan/EIS is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR part 215.

Reviewers are obligated to structure their participation in the National Environmental Policy Act process so that it is meaningful and alerts the agency to the reviewer's position and contentions, (*Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDS*, 435 U.S. 519, 553, (1978)). Environmental objections that could have been raised at the draft stage may be waived if not raised until after completing the Final EIS (*City of Angoon v. Hodel* (9th Circuit 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages Inc. v. Harris* 490 F. Suppl. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980)).

This notice is provided pursuant to federal regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: July 8, 2005.

Robert J. Leaverton,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 05-13865 Filed 7-14-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-ES-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Green Mountain National Forest; Vermont; Deerfield Wind Project

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service has accepted an application for a special use authorization from Deerfield Wind, LLC for the installation and operation of 20 to 30 wind turbines on National Forest System (NFS) lands managed by Green Mountain National Forest (GMNF). The project would utilize approximately 80 acres of National Forest land within the Manchester District.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received by August 15, 2005. The draft environmental impact statement is expected in August 2005 and the final environmental impact statement is expected February 2007.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments to Gina Owens, District Ranger, Manchester Ranger District, USDA Forest Service, 2538 Depot Street, Manchester Center, VT 05255.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Bob Bayer, Project Coordinator, Manchester Ranger District, USDA Forest Service, 2538 Depot Street, Manchester Center, VT 05255; 802-362-2307 ext. 218; e-mail: rbayer@fs.fed.us

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purposed and Need for Action

The purpose of the proposed action is to provide between 30 and 45 megawatts (MW) of new wind energy and capacity by expanding the existing private land based wind power facility in Searsburg, Vermont onto National Forest System (NFS) lands. The new capacity will supply additional renewable power to the Vermont and New England electric supply grid. The use and occupancy of federal lands is an important element in facilitating the exploration, development, and transmission of affordable, renewable

and reliable energy in the region to meet the purpose.

The projected project is needed to:

1. Contribute to Vermont's and the region's growing demand for reliable sources of clean, cost-effective, renewable energy generated electricity.
2. Contribute to a secure, reliable supply of electric generating capacity to address the regional and local need.
3. Reduce the region's over-dependence on natural gas generation, thereby decreasing electric price volatility and providing potential cost savings to consumers.
4. Reduce air emissions, and the associated negative environmental and human health effects, produced by fossil fuel-fired electric generation, thereby improving local and regional air quality.

Proposed Action

The Deerfield Wind Project is proposed on two separate ridge lines east and west of Vermont Route 8. Approximately half of the 20 to 30 new state-of-the-art turbines would be placed on the east side on Route 8 on the same ridgeline as the existing Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP) Searsburg Wind Farm, which was placed in service in 1997 on 35 acres of private lands adjacent to GMNF land. It consists of eleven, 0.55 megawatt (MW) (550 kilowatts (kW)) wind turbines, each just under 200 feet in height, that together are capable of producing 6 MW of electricity. Ten to fifteen new 1.5 to 2.0 MW (1,500 to 2,000 kW) turbines would be placed adjacent to the existing wind turbines on the east ridge (eastern project area). The remaining ten to fifteen turbines would be placed along the ridgeline to the west of Route 8 (western project area). The wind turbines would be capable of producing 30 to 45 MW of electricity. Each wind turbine consists of a tubular steel tower, a nacelle (which houses the turbine's mechanical components), and a three-bladed rotor. Total height of the wind turbine is expected to be approximately 340 to 370 feet. Along with the turbines, the project will include a storage and maintenance building that will be approximately 24 feet by 40 feet in dimension, approximately 4 miles of gravel access road, and approximately 4 miles of underground and overhead electrical lines. These lines will connect a new substation constructed in the northern section of the western project area on USFS lands. The new substation will be enclosed in a chain link fence and be approximately one-half acre in size and contain a transformer and other electrical equipment. An alternative interconnection point for electric lines would be an existing GMP substation on

private land on the east side of Route 8. Construction of the proposed project would require clearing of up to 80 acres of National Forest land. The Forest Service has determined that an environmental impact statement (EIS) is required to fully and effectively evaluate this site-specific application.

Responsible Official

Paul Brewster, Forest Supervisor, Green Mountain and Finger Lakes National Forests, 231 North Main Street, Rutland, VT 05071-2417.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

Deerfield Wind LLC has made application to the Forest Service for a Special Use Authorization seeking authorization to occupy and use NSF lands for the purpose of constructing and operating a wind power facility on the Green Mountain National Forest. The decision to be made is whether to grant the authorization for the construction and operation activities as proposed, or as modified by an alternative to the proposed activities, or to defer granting of the authorization.

Scoping Process

The GMNF plans to scope for information by contacting persons and organizations interested or potentially affected by the proposed action by using mailings, public announcements, and personal contacts. In addition, two separate public scoping meetings will be held to collect public input on the scope of the EIS:

Scoping Meeting #1: August 3, 2005, Grand Summit Resort Hotel, Mount Snow, 12 Pisgah Road, West Dover, VT. An open house format will be used. The public is welcome between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Scoping Meeting #2: August 4, 2005, Whitingham Elementary School, Route 100 South, Jacksonsville, VT. An open house format will be used. The public is welcome between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Comments Requested

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. The primary purpose is to gather public comments, issues, and concerns regarding the proposed action. Comments, issues and concerns will be used to help formulate alternatives to the proposed action. Please make your written comments as specific as possible as they relate to the proposed action, and include your name, address, and, if possible, telephone number and e-mail address. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including the names and

addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record and will be available for public inspection. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request that a submission be withheld from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that confidentiality is granted in only very limited circumstances. The Forest Service will inform the requester of its decision regarding a request for confidentiality. Where the request is denied, the submission will be returned, and the requester notified that the comments may be resubmitted with or without name and address.

Early Notice of Importance of Public Participation in Subsequent Environmental Review: A draft environmental impact statement will be prepared for comment. The comment period on the draft environmental impact statement will be 45 days from the date the Environmental Protection Agency publishes the notice of availability in the **Federal Register**.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. NRDC*, 435 U.S. 519, 533 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact statement stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the 45 day comment period so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in the final environmental impact statement.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues and concerns on the proposed action, written comments on the draft environmental impact statement should be as specific as possible. It is also

helpful if comments refer to specific pages or chapters of the draft statement. Comments may also address the adequacy of the draft environmental impact statement or the merits of the alternatives formulated and discussed in the statement. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the public record on this proposal and will be available for public inspection.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 21)

Dated: July 8, 2005.

Paul K. Brewster,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 05-13847 Filed 7-14-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Notice of Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Forest Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the authorities in the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463) and under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393) the Kootenai National Forest's Lincoln County Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday August 3, 2005, at 6 p.m. at the Turner Mountain Ski Lodge 22 miles from Libby, Montana for a business meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: August 3, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Turner Mountain Ski Lodge, from Libby travel 20 miles North on Pipe Creek Road #68, then turn left onto Forest Service Road 6166, continue to the lodge.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Edgmon, Committee Coordinator, Kootenai National Forest at (406) 293-6211, or e-mail bedgmon@fs.fed.us.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Agenda topics include presentation of project proposals, review and selection of submitted proposals for funding in fiscal year 2006, and receiving public comment. If the meeting date or location is changed, notice will be posted in the

local newspapers, including the Daily Interlake based in Kalispell, Montana.

Dated: July 11, 2005

Bob Castaneda,

Forest Supervisor.

[FR Doc. 05-13935 Filed 7-14-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-11-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Telephone Bank

Confirmation of Stock Ownership Records

AGENCY: Rural Telephone Bank, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of confirmation of stock ownership records for the Rural Telephone Bank.

SUMMARY: The Rural Telephone Bank (Bank) has sent letters to all of its stockholders of record, asking them to confirm their stockholdings. This notice is being published to notify any persons who believe that they own shares of stock in the Bank but have not received a stock confirmation letter that they should contact the Bank immediately.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jonathan P. Claffey, Assistant Secretary, Rural Telephone Bank, STOP 1590—Room 5151, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-1590. Telephone: (202) 720-9556.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Bank is in the process of studying a proposal to dissolve. The dissolution of the Bank would require the redemption of outstanding stock in accordance with its enabling legislation, Title IV of the Rural Electrification Act (7 U.S.C. 941 *et seq.*). As a preliminary step, the Bank has determined the stockholdings of each shareholder as of June 15, 2005. Letters were sent by the Bank to all stockholders of record on June 30, 2005, asking them to confirm that their own stock records are in agreement with the Bank's.

Since letters were sent by the Bank to all its shareholders, any persons who believe that they own shares of stock in the Bank but have not received a stock confirmation letter should contact the Bank immediately. A letter explaining the details of the claimed stockholdings should be sent to Jonathan Claffey, Assistant Secretary of the Bank, at the address shown above. Any evidence supporting the claimed stockholdings should be included with the letter. Claims should be submitted within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: July 11, 2005.

Jonathan P. Claffey,

Assistant Secretary, Rural Telephone Bank.

[FR Doc. 05-13944 Filed 7-14-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-15-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed additions to Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee is proposing to add to the Procurement List products and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

DATES: *Comments Must Be Received on or Before:* August 15, 2005.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800, 1421 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia, 22202-3259.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT COMMENTS CONTACT: Sheryl D. Kennerly, Telephone: (703) 603-7740, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or e-mail SKennerly@jwod.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the proposed actions. If the Committee approves the proposed additions, the entities of the Federal Government identified in the notice for each product or service will be required to procure the products and services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. If approved, the action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the products and services to the Government.

2. If approved, the action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish