

select "Food Safety and Inspection Service" from the agency drop-down menu, then click on "Submit." In the Docket ID column, select FDMS Docket Number FSIS-calendar year-docket number to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.

All submissions received by mail or electronic mail must include the Agency name and docket number. All comments submitted in response to this document, as well as research and background information used by FSIS in developing this document, will be available for public inspection in the FSIS Docket Room at the address listed above between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. Comments will also be posted on the Agency's Web site at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations\\_&\\_policies/regulations\\_directives\\_&\\_notices/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/regulations_directives_&_notices/index.asp).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Contact John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 112, Washington, DC 20250-3700, (202) 720-0345.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Job Applicant Medical Information.

*OMB Number:* 0583-xxxx.

*Type of Request:* New information collection.

*Abstract:* FSIS has been delegated the authority to exercise the functions of the Secretary as specified in the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) (21 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.*), the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA) (21 U.S.C. 451, *et seq.*), and the Egg Products Inspection Act (EPIA) (21 U.S.C. 1031, *et seq.*). These statutes provide that FSIS is to protect the public by verifying that meat, poultry, and egg products are safe, wholesome, unadulterated, and properly labeled and packaged.

FSIS is requesting a new information collection addressing paperwork and recordkeeping requirements regarding the medical history and status of certain FSIS job applicants. Under 5 CFR 339, FSIS is requesting to collect the medical information of applicants to certain positions in the Agency to assist FSIS in making a determination of their medical fitness for duty. Applicants for certain positions in FSIS are to complete, and have their physician/medical examiner complete, FSIS Forms Certificate of Medical Examination and Report of Medical History.

FSIS has made the following estimates based upon an information collection assessment:

*Estimate of Burden:* FSIS estimates that it will take respondents an average of 165 minutes to complete and submit both of these forms to FSIS.

*Respondents:* FSIS job applicants and physicians/medical examiners.

*Estimated No. of Respondents:* 2,400.

*Estimated No. of Annual Responses per Respondent:* 2 (each form once).

*Estimated Total Annual Burden on Respondents:* 4,500 hours.

Copies of this information collection assessment can be obtained from John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA, 300 12th Street, SW., Room 112, Washington, DC 20250-3700, (202) 720-5627, (202) 720-0345.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FSIS' functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of FSIS' estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and, (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques, or other forms of information technology. Comments may be sent to both John O'Connell, Paperwork Reduction Act Coordinator, at the address provided above, and the Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20253.

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.

**Additional Public Notification**

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to ensure that the public and in particular minorities, women, and persons with disabilities, are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it on-line through the FSIS Web page located at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2007\\_Notices\\_Index/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations/2007_Notices_Index/index.asp).

FSIS also will make copies of this **Federal Register** publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, **Federal Register** notices,

FSIS public meetings, recalls, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The update is communicated via Listserv, a free e-mail subscription service consisting of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals who have requested to be included. The update also is available on the FSIS web page. Through Listserv and the web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience.

In addition, FSIS offers an e-mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news\\_and\\_events/email\\_subscription/](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/news_and_events/email_subscription/). Options range from recalls to export information to regulations, directives and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves and have the option to password protect their account.

Done at Washington, DC, on: February 6, 2007.

**Bryce Quick,**

*Acting Administrator.*

[FR Doc. E7-2194 Filed 2-8-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-DM-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Forest Service**

**Eastern Washington Cascades Provincial Advisory Committee and the Yakima Provincial Advisory Committee**

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The Eastern Washington Cascades Provincial Advisory Committee and the Yakima Provincial Advisory Committee will meet on Friday, February 23, 2007 at the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forest Headquarters office, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, WA. This meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m. During this meeting Provincial Advisory Committee members will discuss Roadless Area considerations and potential Wilderness recommendations in conjunction with Forest Plan Revision for the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests. All Eastern Washington Cascades and Yakima Province Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Direct questions regarding this meeting to Paul Hart, Designated Federal

Official, USDA, Wenatchee National Forest, 215 Melody Lane, Wenatchee, Washington 98801, 509-644-9200.

Dated: February 5, 2007.

**Paul Hart,**

*Designated Federal Official, Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests.*

[FR Doc. 07-582 Filed 2-8-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-11-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Rural Utilities Service

#### Highwood Generating Station

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of Final Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS), an agency which administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Utilities Programs (USDA Rural Development), is issuing a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Highwood Generating Station (HGS). The Final EIS was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (U.S.C. 4231 et seq.) in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) and RUS regulations (7 CFR 1794). This document has been prepared jointly with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), which has its own statutory mandates to analyze potential environmental impacts under the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) (75-1-101 et seq., MCA and ARM 17.4.601 et seq.) and to issue permits under the Montana Clean Air Act, Montana Clean Water Act, and Montana Solid Waste Management Act. USDA Rural Development invites comments on the Final EIS.

The purpose of the EIS is to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of and alternatives to the Southern Montana Electric Transmission & Generation Cooperative, Inc. (SME) application to USDA Rural Development for a loan guarantee to construct a 250 megawatt (MW) coal-fired power plant near Great Falls, Montana. SME also proposes to construct and operate four, 1.5-MW wind turbines at the proposed project site to generate supplemental electrical power.

**DATES:** Written comments on this Final EIS will be accepted on or before March 12, 2007.

**ADDRESS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** To send comments or for more information, contact: Richard Fristik, USDA, Rural Development, Utilities Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue, Mail Stop 1571, Room 2237, Washington, DC 20250-1571, telephone (202) 720-5093, fax (202) 720-0820, or e-mail: [Richard.Fristik@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Richard.Fristik@wdc.usda.gov).

A copy of the FEIS has been sent to affected Federal, state, and local government agencies and to interested parties. The document can be obtained or viewed online at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. The files are in a portable document format (pdf); in order to review or print the document, users need to obtain a free copy of Adobe® Reader®. The Adobe® Reader® can be obtained from <http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>.

Copies of the Final EIS will be available for public review during normal business hours at the following locations:

Montana State Library System, Attn: Roberta Gebhardt, P.O. Box 201800, Helena, MT 59620-1800, (406) 444-5393.

University of Montana at Missoula, 32 Campus Drive 59801, Mansfield Library, Missoula, MT 59812, (406) 243-6866.

Missoula Public Library, 301 East Main, Missoula, MT 59802-4799, (406) 721-2665, FAX: (406) 728-5900.

Montana State University Libraries, P.O. Box 173320, Bozeman, MT 59717-3320, Phone: (406) 994-3119, Fax: (406) 994-2851.

MSU-Northern Library, P.O. Box 7751, Havre, MT 59501-7751.

Great Falls Public Library, 301 2nd Ave. North, Great Falls MT 59401-2593, (406) 453-0349.

Havre-Hill County Library, 402 3rd St., Havre, MT 59501, (406) 265-2123.

Parmly Billings Library, 510 N 28th St. #1, Billings, MT 59101, (406) 657-3079.

Belt Public Library, 404 Millard Street, Belt, MT 59411-0467.

Chouteau County Library, 1518 Main, Fort Benton, MT 59442.

Branch of Chouteau County Library, Box 1247, Big Sandy, MT 59520.

Branch of Chouteau County Library, Box 316, Geraldine, MT 59446.

Stone Child College Library, RR 1 Box 1082, Box Elder, MT 59521.

Wedsworth Memorial Library, 9-1/2 Front St., Cascade, MT 59421-0526.

Fort Belknap College Library and Tribal Archives, P.O. Box 159, Harlem, MT 59526.

Harlem Public Library, 37 First Ave. SE., Harlem, MT 59526.

Choteau-Teton County Library, 17 Main Ave. North, Choteau, MT 59422.

Copies of the Final EIS may also be obtained by contacting either Richard Fristik at 202-720-5093 (e-mail: [Richard.Fristik@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:Richard.Fristik@wdc.usda.gov)) or Kathy Johnson at 406-444-1760 (e-mail: [katijohnson@mt.gov](mailto:katijohnson@mt.gov)).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Presently, SME meets all of its power requirements for its cooperative member systems by purchasing power from two Federal power suppliers—the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Western Area Power Administration. The major supplier (BPA) will begin to phase out its sales of power to SME in 2008 and terminate them entirely by 2011, thus the need exists to fulfill future requirements by other means. More information on the purpose and need for the proposal is in Chapter 1 of the FEIS.

On September 24, 2004, USDA Rural Development published the Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for the Highwood Generating Station in the **Federal Register**. The EIS focused on potential impacts to the following resources: Soils, topography and geology; water resources, air quality, biological resources, the acoustic environment, recreation, cultural and historic resources, visual resources, transportation, farmland and land use, waste management, human health and safety, the socioeconomic environment, environmental justice, and cumulative effects. In compliance with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act, a Biological Assessment was prepared to evaluate potential effects to threatened and endangered species in the proposed project area. On June 29, 2006 USDA Rural Development published its Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS for the proposed project in the **Federal Register**. The 60-day comment period ended on August 30, 2006. Over 1400 comments were received on the Draft EIS; a comment/response summary is appended to the Final EIS.

Alternatives evaluated in the FEIS include: Power purchase agreements; energy conservation and efficiency; renewable non-combustible energy sources (wind energy, solar energy, hydroelectricity, geothermal energy); renewable combustible energy sources (biomass, biogas, municipal solid waste); non-renewable combustible energy sources (natural gas combined cycle, microturbines, pulverized coal, circulating fluidized bed coal, integrated gasification combined cycle coal, oil), and combinations of renewable and non-renewable sources. Site screening evaluated 4 main potential locations statewide, while site selection examined 6 alternative sites in the preferred location near Great Falls. Several same-site alternatives for project components were also studied, including using different railroad spur alignments, methods of obtaining potable water, discharging wastewater, and disposing of ash, respectively.