

inquiries to the Superintendent, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, NY 10996-5000.

Individual should provide the full name, Social Security Number, and signature.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:

The Army's rules for accessing records, and for contesting contents and appealing initial agency determinations are contained in Army Regulation 340-21; 32 CFR part 505; or may be obtained from the system manager.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

From the individual, his/her sponsors, peer evaluations, grades and reports of U.S. Military Academy academic and physical education department heads, transcripts from other educational institutions, medical examination/assessments, supervisory counseling/performance reports.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:

Parts of this system may be exempt under 5 U.S.C. 552a(k)(5) or (k)(7), as applicable.

An exemption rule for this record system has been promulgated in accordance with the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(1), (2), and (3), (c) and (e) and published in 32 CFR part 505. For additional information contact the system manager.

[FR Doc. 96-19517 Filed 8-8-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-F

Department of the Navy

Notice of Public Hearing for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Capital Improvements at Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Acoustic Research Detachment (ARD) Bayview, ID

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy has prepared and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for proposed capital improvements at NSWC Carderock Division, ARD Bayview, Idaho. The DEIS has been distributed to various federal, state and local agencies, elected officials, special interest groups, and the public. A Notice of Availability of the DEIS was published in the Federal Register on August 9, 1996. It also is on file and available for review at the following locations: (1) Bayview Community Center, 16304 Perimeter

Road, Bayview, ID; (2) Kootenai County Public Library, 3835 N. Government Way, Hayden Lake, ID; 30399 Third Street, Athol, ID; 1652 Highway 41, Rathdrum, ID; 217 N. Fifth Street, Spirit Lake, ID; (3) East Bonner County Library, 419 N. Second Avenue, Sandpoint, ID; and (4) Coeur d'Alene Public Library, 201 E. Harrison Avenue, Coeur d'Alene, ID..

The Navy proposes to implement a capital improvement plan at NSWC, ARD Bayview, Idaho. Currently, functions and facilities are scattered among dispersed facilities causing inefficiency in operations. Planning for future operations at ARD has identified a need to consolidate these dispersed facilities and functions, bringing together related functions for an increased operations efficiency. This DEIS addresses two alternative plans, each composed of capital improvement projects designed to increase operational efficiency at ARD. The DEIS focuses on the environmental impacts anticipated from the construction and operation of two major capital improvement projects. The DEIS also addresses ARD operations supported by these facilities, including acoustic experimentation in Lake Pend Oreille. Anticipated environmental impacts of these projects and other, associated capital improvements are presented in a comparative analysis. The proposed action may result in temporary, construction-related impacts such as increased turbidity near construction sites, construction noise and construction traffic. Long term impacts would include increased stormwater runoff, redistribution of sediment deposition in Lake Pend Oreille nearshore areas not affecting Kokanee salmon spawning habitat, minor visual obstruction of the lake from some viewpoints, and changes in land use through acquisition of a private-family residence and Bayview Public Park. Specific mitigation measures are provided which will either avoid, or reduce impacts. The two alternative improvement plans differ in level of water quality impacts and view impacts. The No Action Alternative would result in continuing operations at ARD and using the existing facilities without change.

ADDRESSES: The Navy will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, September 5, 1996, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Bayview Community Center, 16304 Perimeter Road, Bayview, Idaho, to inform the public of the DEIS findings and to solicit comments. Federal, state and local agencies, and interested parties are invited to be present or

represented at the hearing. Oral comments will be heard and transcribed by a stenographer. To assure accuracy of the record, all comments should be submitted in writing. All comments, both oral and written, will become part of the public record in the study. In the interest of available time, each speaker will be asked to limit oral comments to five minutes. Longer comments should be summarized at the public hearing and submitted in writing either at the hearing or mailed to the address listed below. Written comments must be received by Monday, September 23, 1996, to become part of the official record.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Peter W. Havens (Code 232PH), Engineering Field Activity Northwest, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 19917 Seventh Avenue NE, Poulsbo, Washington 98370-7570, email address: envplan@efanw.navfac.navy.mil, telephone (360) 396-0916.

Dated: August 6, 1996.

M.A. Waters,
LCDR, JAGC, USN, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 96-20336 Filed 8-8-96; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

National Environmental Policy Act Record of Decision for the Disposal of Decommissioned, Defueled Cruiser, Ohio Class, and Los Angeles Class Naval Reactor Plants

SUMMARY: This Record of Decision has been prepared on the proposed disposal of defueled reactor plants from U.S. Navy nuclear-powered cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.] and in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508). The Navy, with the concurrence of the Department of Energy, has decided to dispose of these reactor plants by land burial of the entire reactor compartment at the Department of Energy Low-Level Waste Burial Grounds at Hanford, Washington. The Department of Energy participated as a cooperating agency in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement on this federal action and has adopted the Environmental Impact Statement.

ADDRESSES: Requests for further information should be directed to either

Mr. John Gordon (Code 1160), Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, 1400 Farragut Avenue, Bremerton, Washington 98314-5001, telephone (360) 476-7111, or, Mr. Paul Dunigan, National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Officer, Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, P.O. Box 550, Richland, Washington 99352, telephone (509) 376-6667.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final Environmental Impact Statement analyzes the alternative ways for disposing of decommissioned, defueled, reactor compartments from U.S. Navy nuclear-powered cruisers (BAINBRIDGE, TRUXTUN, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA Class and VIRGINIA Class) and submarines (LOS ANGELES and OHIO Class). A disposal method for the defueled reactor compartments is needed when the cost of continued operation is not justified by the ship's military capability, or when the ships are no longer needed. Navy reactor plants constructed prior to the USS LOS ANGELES (SSN 688) (referred to as pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarines) share many common design characteristics with reactor plants from nuclear-powered cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines. Defueled reactor plants from pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarines are currently being disposed of at the Department of Energy Hanford Site in Eastern Washington by the Navy, consistent with its 1984 Record of Decision.

The alternatives examined in detail in the Final Environmental Impact Statement were the preferred alternative—shipment of the prepared compartments from the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Washington for land burial of the entire reactor compartment at the Department of Energy Low-Level Waste Burial Grounds at Hanford, Washington; the no action alternative—protective waterborne storage for an indefinite period; disposal and reuse of subdivided portions of the reactor compartments; and indefinite storage above ground at Hanford.

Among these four alternatives, the subdivision alternative had the highest impacts, primarily due to the high occupational radiation exposure that would be received by workers dismantling the reactor compartments. The other three alternatives had very small environment impacts. Of these three, only the reactor compartment land burial alternative provided for permanent disposal of the defueled reactor plants. Thus, the alternative of land burial of the defueled reactor

compartments at Hanford is the environmentally preferable alternative.

Under this alternative, the Department of the Navy will prepare the defueled reactor compartments for shipment at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. These preparations involve draining the piping systems, tanks, vessels and other components to the maximum extent practical, sealing the radioactive systems, removing the reactor compartment and enclosing it in a high integrity all-welded steel package. The reactor compartment packages will meet the type B requirements of the Department of Transportation, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Department of Energy. Non-radioactive metal, such as submarine hulls, could be recycled. The reactor compartment packages will be transported by barge out of Puget Sound through the Strait of Juan de Fuca, down the Washington coast, and up the Columbia River to the Port of Benton where they will be loaded onto an overland transporter and hauled to the Department of Energy's Hanford Site near Richland, Washington.

The Department of Energy will accept the approximately 100 cruiser, OHIO Class and LOS ANGELES Class submarine reactor compartments for disposal at the 218-E-12B Low-Level Burial Ground, a 173-acre waste disposal facility in the 200 East area of the Hanford Site. To date, 55 pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarine reactor compartments have been transported safely and disposed of in one area of this facility. The Department of Energy will oversee the future placement of reactor compartments into this area of the disposal facility and manage subsequent disposal operations in accordance with all applicable requirements. The Washington State Department of Ecology will regulate the reactor compartment disposal packages as a dangerous waste under Washington Administrative Code 173-303, Dangerous Waste Regulations, due to the over 100 tons of permanent lead shielding in each reactor compartment. Treatment before disposal is not required because the solid elemental lead shielding is encapsulated by thick metal sheathing plates that meet Resource Conservation and Recovery Act treatment standards for disposal of radioactive lead solids.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement was made available for public review, and little public input was received. Review comments from state regulatory agencies in Washington and Oregon were positive. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) assigned a rating of LO-1 to the Draft

Environmental Impact Statement, which indicates that EPA review did not identify any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the preferred alternative. The Final Environmental Impact Statement, which includes responses to public comments, has been issued and distributed to interested parties.

The Navy, with the concurrence of the Department of Energy, has decided to proceed with the preferred alternative of land burial of the defueled reactor compartments at Hanford because this alternative is the environmentally preferable alternative, it supports the Navy's mission by providing for responsible, permanent disposal of the defueled reactor plants from the Navy's nuclear-powered ships, and it can be accomplished safely and at reasonable cost.

As discussed in the Environmental Impact Statement, the Navy's current method of disposing of pre-LOS ANGELES Class submarine reactor plants consists of conservative engineering practices, which serve to assure that environmental impacts will be very small. These conservative engineering practices have been incorporated in the Navy's preferred alternative for nuclear-powered cruisers, OHIO Class submarines and LOS ANGELES Class submarines. No additional mitigative measures have been identified which are needed to further reduce the small impacts which were described in the Environmental Impact Statement. Accordingly, all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the preferred alternative have been adopted.

Dated: July 3, 1996.

Robert B. Pirie, Jr.,
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment).

Alvin Alm,
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Department of Energy.
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DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

Board Policy on Board Oversight of Department of Energy Decommissioning Activities at Defense Nuclear Facilities

AGENCY: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

ACTION: Notice of Board adoption of policy guidance.

SUMMARY: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board has unanimously