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**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-288-009 through 024]

#### Transwestern Pipeline Company; Notice of Technical Conference

September 18, 2002.

Take notice that on August 16, 2002, Transwestern Pipeline Company (Transwestern) filed a request for a conference to discuss Transwestern's proposal for addressing certain issues in these dockets.

Take notice that a technical conference to discuss the various issues raised by Transwestern's filing will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2002 at 10:00 am, in a room to be designated at the offices of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

All interested parties and Staff are permitted to attend.

**Linwood A. Watson, Jr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7381-5]

### U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTION:** Notice of the availability of the draft document for the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is announcing

the availability of the draft document, "Border 2012: U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program" (Border Plan or Border 2012). Border 2012 is a 10-year, binational, results-oriented, environmental program for the U.S.-Mexico border region, which has been developed by the EPA, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (Mexico's Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources), Secretaría de Salud (Mexico's Secretaría of Health), the U.S. border Tribes, and the environmental agencies from each of the ten U.S.-Mexico border states. The proposed Border 2012 Program is the latest multi-year, binational planning effort to be implemented under the La Paz Agreement and succeeds Border XXI, a five-year program that ended in 2000. The mission of Border 2012 is to protect public health and the environment in the U.S.-Mexico border region, consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

EPA is requesting comments from interested parties and border stakeholders on the draft Border Plan.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted no later than November 22, 2002. Written comments can be submitted by mail or fax to either of EPA's Border Offices. Comments can also be submitted on EPA's U.S.-Mexico Border Web site at: <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>. In addition, EPA will be accepting comments at public meetings to be held throughout the border region during October and November 2002. The draft document, "Border 2012: U.S.-Mexico Environmental Program", is posted in English and Spanish on EPA's web page at: <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder>. In addition, English/Spanish copies of the draft document can be requested by contacting either of the EPA Border Offices:

EPA El Paso Border Office: 4050 Rio Bravo, Suite 100, El Paso, Texas 79902. Telephone (915) 533-7273; Toll-free (800) 334-0741; FAX (915) 533-2327. Office Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. C.S.T.

EPA San Diego Border Office: 610 West Ash St., Suite 905, San Diego, CA 92101. Telephone (619) 235-4765; Toll-free (800) 334-0741; FAX (619) 235-4771. Office Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. P.S.T.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** EPA El Paso Border Office at (915) 533-7273 or (800) 334-0741 or EPA San Diego Border Office at (619) 235-4765 or (800) 334-0741.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

## I. Background

For decades, the U.S. and Mexico have collaborated on efforts to protect the environment and health of border communities. The most recent binational effort was the Border XXI Program, which was initiated in 1996 with a five-year plan for addressing the most challenging environmental and environmentally-related health problems in the region. The formal foundation for these binational efforts is the La Paz Agreement (<http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder/2002/efpaz.htm>) signed by Presidents De la Madrid and Reagan in 1983. The agreement is implemented through multi-year binational programs such as Border XXI and the new Border 2012 program.

Although most of the Border XXI projects were implemented at the local level, its organizational structure emphasized border-wide coordination and planning. Nine border-wide workgroups—each focused on a particular environmental program, such as air quality or hazardous waste management—coordinated the efforts of various federal, state, tribal and local governmental activities in the border area. The new Border 2012 Program builds upon the successes achieved under Border XXI while also establishing a regionally-focused border plan to facilitate environmental priority setting and planning at the regional and local levels.

## II. A New Approach

The proposed Border 2012 emphasizes a bottom-up approach, anticipating that local decision-making, priority-setting and project implementation will best address environmental issues in the border region. Border 2012 will emphasize concrete measurable results, public participation, transparency, and timely access to environmental information.

The Border 2012 Program proposes some key changes from Border XXI including: (1) New mission statement; (2) integration of pollution prevention and environmental information into the activities of all coordinating bodies; and (3) new organizational structure that focuses on regional workgroups to facilitate regional- and local-level planning and priority setting.

The major features of the Border 2012 program are the following: the coordinating bodies, goals and measurable objectives, and reporting results to the public.

## III. Coordinating Bodies

Border 2012 is organized around coordinating bodies. These coordinating

bodies include the following: the National Coordinators, four Regional (geographically-focused) Workgroups, three Border-wide Workgroups, and Policy Forums.

#### *A. National Coordinators*

Consistent with the requirements of the La Paz Agreement, the National Coordinators will monitor and manage implementation of the Border 2012 Program and ensure cooperation and communication among all coordinating bodies.

#### *B. Regional Workgroups*

Providing the foundation of the Border 2012 Program, four multi-media, regionally-focused workgroups will support the efforts of local Task Forces and coordinate activities at the regional and local level. The proposed Regional Workgroups are the following: California—Baja California, Arizona—Sonora, New Mexico—Texas—Chihuahua, and Texas—Coahuila—Nuevo León—Tamaulipas. Each Regional Workgroup will be co-chaired by one state and one federal representative from each country.

#### *C. Border-wide Workgroups*

Border-wide Workgroups will concentrate on issues that are multi-regional (identified as a priority by two or more Regional Workgroups) and primarily federal in nature (requiring direct, high-level, and sustained leadership by federal program partners in the United States and Mexico). Three Border-wide Workgroups will have federal U.S. and Mexican co-chairs for the following issues: environmental health, emergency preparedness and response, and cooperative enforcement and compliance.

#### *D. Policy Forums*

Policy Forums will have a media-specific focus and will concentrate on broad policy issues that require an on-going dialogue between the two countries. Three Policy Forums will be established to address policy issues and provide technical assistance to the Regional and Border-wide Workgroups in the following areas: air, water, hazardous waste, solid waste, and toxic substances.

The Regional Workgroups, Border-wide Workgroups, and the Policy Forums will be broad-based and will include representation from local communities from both sides of the border, including non-governmental or community-based organizations; academic institutions; local, state, and tribal representatives; and binational organizations (such as the Border

Environmental Cooperation Commission or the North American Development Bank) with expertise in the given workgroup's subject area.

Except for the National Coordinators, the coordinating bodies may create Task Forces to address specific community-identified concerns and implement site-specific projects. Task Forces will be led by a "team leader" from each country and may be from any sector of government (including tribal governments), the private sector, academia, or from non-governmental organizations.

#### **IV. Goals and Objectives**

Border 2012 establishes the following five border-wide environmental goals for the U.S.-Mexico border region: reduce water contamination, reduce air pollution; reduce land contamination; reduce exposure to pesticides, particularly children's exposure; and reduce exposure to chemicals as a result of accidental chemical releases and/or deliberate acts of terrorism.

For each of the above goals, measurable objectives have been proposed. In all, there are fifteen measurable objectives. These objectives are in the areas of:

- Homes connected to potable water, wastewater collection and treatment systems;
- Surface and groundwater water quality;
- Ambient air quality standards;
- Human risk from air toxics;
- Voluntary compliance in maquiladoras;
- Hazardous and solid waste capacity in the border region;
- Hazardous waste violations at ports of entry;
- Tire piles;
- Brownfields;
- Pesticide exposure;
- Contingency planning; and
- Binational emergency planning.

#### **V. Reporting Results**

Every two years the coordinating bodies will publish an implementation report that describes the status of current and proposed activities under the Border 2012 program. In addition, comprehensive mid-term and final progress reports that describe progress on meeting the goals and objectives of the program, including environmental indicators, will be published in 2006 and 2012 respectively.

#### **VI. Public Input and Participation During the Comment Period**

EPA, SEMARNAT, and the U.S. and Mexican border states are seeking input from border stakeholders and other

interested parties about the proposed Border 2012 program. We invite public comments related to all aspects of the proposed Border 2012 plan, and, in particular, we are interested in comments related to the following topics:

- Once established, each Regional Workgroup will develop specific plans and projects for that Region. What are the most important environmental issues for each region? Some examples of important environmental issues are included in the draft document.
- Will the new structure, especially the introduction of Regional Workgroups and Task Forces, help focus on the key environmental issues in each region? Are there improvements that could be made to the proposed structure that would improve decision-making?
- Will the Border 2012 plan provide adequate input from border stakeholders to state and federal decision-makers? Are there ways to improve the workgroup process to insure that stakeholders' concerns are heard?

A number of opportunities for the public to comment on the draft document are provided as follows:

#### *A. EPA U.S.-Mexico Border Web Site*

Individuals can submit comments directly by filling out the public comment form at: <http://www.epa.gov/usmexicoborder/>

#### *B. Public Meetings*

A number of public meetings will be held in October and November in the following cities: Deming, New Mexico; Las Cruces, New Mexico; Alpine, Texas; Imperial County, California Yuma/San Luis, Arizona; Sells, Arizona; Douglas, Arizona. In addition, bi-national meetings will be held in San Diego, California/Tijuana, Baja California; Nogales, Arizona/Nogales, Sonora; El Paso, Texas/Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua; Del Rio, Texas/Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila; Laredo, Texas/Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas; Brownsville, Texas/Matamoros, Tamaulipas. For meeting locations and times, please check the EPA U.S.-Mexico Border website or contact the EPA Border Offices. Public comment will be accepted at these meetings.

C. Interested parties can also mail or fax comments to the EPA Border Offices at the addresses and fax numbers listed above.

#### *D. On-Line Dialogue*

The Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy will be hosting an on-line dialogue on the BECCNet Listserv during the comment period for interested parties to exchange ideas

about the draft plan. The purpose of this dialogue is not to submit public comment, but rather to provide a forum for discussion of the draft document. To participate in or to monitor this dialogue, one must subscribe to the BECCNet Listserv. The instructions for subscribing to the BECCNet can be found on the Udall Center Web site at: <http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/listservs/beccnet.html>

## VII. EPA's Relationship With U.S. Border Tribes in Border 2012

EPA will continue to honor its unique trust relationship with U.S. Indian tribes and enforce its "Policy for the Administration of Environmental Program on Indian Reservations" within the Border 2012 U.S.-Mexico program. EPA recognizes that U.S. tribal governments are sovereign and are the primary parties for setting standards, making environmental policy decisions, and managing environmental programs on Indian reservations.

Within the Border 2012 Program, EPA will comply with Executive Order 13175, "Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments" and work with tribes when formulating and implementing policies or taking other actions that have a substantial direct effect on any Indian tribe.

EPA is working with U.S. border tribes to develop mechanisms to ensure full participation of U.S. border tribes in the Border 2012 Program.

Dated: September 18, 2002.

**Joan Fidler,**

*Director Office of Western Hemisphere and Bilateral Affairs, Office of International Affairs.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Being Reviewed by the Federal Communications Commission for Extension Under Delegated Authority 5 CFR 1320 Authority, Comments Requested

September 16, 2002.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection(s), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it

displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Persons wishing to comment on this information collection should submit comments on or before November 25, 2002.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all comments to Les Smith, Federal Communications Commissions, Room 1-A804, 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20554, or via the Internet to [lesmith@fcc.gov](mailto:lesmith@fcc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information or copies of the information collections contact Les Smith at 202-418-0217 or via the Internet at [lesmith@fcc.gov](mailto:lesmith@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *OMB Control Number:* 3060-0219.

*Title:* Section 90.49(a)(2)(xi), Communications Standby Facilities "Special Eligibility Showing".

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Type of Review:* Extension of existing collection.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit entities.

*Number of Respondents:* 200.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 0.75 hours.

*Total Annual Burden:* 150 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* None.

*Needs and Uses:* 47 CFR section 90.49(a)(2)(xi) requires each communications common carrier that operates communications circuits that normally carry essential communications is eligible to apply for standby radio facility authorization only for transmissions during periods when normal circuits are inoperable due to special circumstances. The initial application for authorization must include a statement describing the desired radio communications facilities, the proposed operating method, a description of the normal messages, and an explanation of how their disruption will endanger life or public property.

*OMB Control:* 3060-0251.

*Title:* Section 74.833, Temporary Authorizations.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit entities.

*Number of Respondents:* 6.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 2 hours.

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion reporting requirements.

*Total Annual Burden:* 12 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* None.

*Needs and Uses:* 47 CFR section 74.833 requires that requests for special temporary authorization be made by informal applications for low power auxiliary station operations, which cannot be conducted in accordance with section 74.24 of the FCC's rules, and for operations of a temporary nature. Section 74.24 states that classes of broadcast auxiliary stations may be operated on a short-term basis under the authority conveyed by a part 73 licensee without prior authorization from the FCC, subject to certain conditions. The FCC staff will use these data to insure that the temporary operation of a low power auxiliary station does not cause interference to other existing stations and to assure compliance with current FCC rules and regulations.

*OMB Control Number:* 3060-0435.

*Title:* Section 80.361 Frequencies for Narrow-Band Direct-Printing (NB-DP) and Data Transmissions.

*Form Number:* N/A.

*Type of Review:* Extension of existing collection.

*Respondents:* Business or other for-profit entities; and Individuals or households.

*Number of Respondents:* 2.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 2 hours.

*Total Annual Burden:* 4 hours.

*Total Annual Cost:* None.

*Needs and Uses:* Under 47 CFR section 80.361, public coast station applicants must submit a "showing of need" to obtain new or additional narrow-band direct-printing (NB-DP) frequencies. Applicants for new or additional NB-DP frequencies must also show the service schedule for each currently licensed or proposed series of NB-DP frequencies. The need for additional frequencies is based on showing a minimum 40% usage of existing NB-DP frequencies. The FCC uses this information to determine whether to grant a public coast station's application for a NB-DP frequency and if these frequencies are being hoarded or under utilized.

*OMB Control Number:* 3060-0543.

*Title:* Section 21.913, Signal Booster Stations.