

Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of this meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Thursday, November 6, 2008, 6 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Ohio State University, Endeavor Center, 1862 Shyville Road, Piketon, Ohio 45661.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

David Kozlowski, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Department of Energy Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office, Post Office Box 700, Piketon, Ohio 45661, (740) 897–2759,  
*David.Kozlowski@lex.doe.gov*.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management and related activities.

*Tentative Agenda:*

- Call to Order, Introductions, Review of Agenda
- Deputy Designated Federal Officer's Comments
- Liaisons' Comments
  - Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Comments
  - Suggestions for Possible Liaisons
- Presentations
- Public Comments
- Administrative Issues—Actions:
  - Operating Procedures
  - Approve Work Plan
- Public Comments
- Final Comments
- Adjourn

Breaks taken as appropriate.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact David Kozlowski at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received five days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Deputy Designated Federal Officer is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Individuals wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of five minutes to present their comments.

*Minutes:* Minutes will be available by writing or calling David Kozlowski at the address and phone number listed above.

Issued at Washington, DC on October 8, 2008.

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E8–24397 Filed 10–14–08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### State Energy Advisory Board

**AGENCY:** Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open teleconference.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a teleconference of the State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463; 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these teleconferences be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** October 16, 2008 at 1 p.m. EDT

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Burch, STEAB Designated Federal Officer, Acting Assistant Manager, Office of Commercialization and Project Management, Golden Field Office, U.S. Department of Energy, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO 80401, Telephone 303/275–4801.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* To make recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy regarding goals and objectives, programmatic and administrative policies, and to otherwise carry out the Board's responsibilities as designated in the State Energy Efficiency Programs Improvement Act of 1990 (Pub. L. No. 101–440).

*Tentative Agenda:* Update members on routine business matters.

*Public Participation:* The teleconference is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Gary Burch at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests to make oral comments must be received five days prior to the conference call; reasonable provision will be made to include requested topic(s) on the agenda. The Chair of the Board is empowered to conduct the call in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. This notice is being published less than 15 days before the date of the meeting due to programmatic issues that had to be resolved prior to publication.

**Notes:** The notes of the teleconference will be available for public review and copying within 60 days on the STEAB Web site, <http://www.steab.org>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on October 8, 2008.

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E8–24387 Filed 10–14–08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450–01–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB)

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces a meeting of the State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB). The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92–463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of these meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** November 18–20, 2008.

*Location:* L'Enfant Plaza Hotel 480 L'Enfant Plaza, SW., Washington, DC 20024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gary Burch, STEAB Designated Federal Officer, Office of Commercialization and Project Management, Golden Field Office, U.S. Department of Energy, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO 80401, Telephone 303–275–4801.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* To make recommendations to the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy regarding goals and objectives, programmatic and administrative policies, and to otherwise carry out the Board's responsibilities as designated in the State Energy Efficiency Programs Improvement Act of 1990 (Pub. L. No. 101–440).

*Tentative Agenda:* Discuss ways STEAB can continue to support DOE's commercialization efforts, consider potential collaborative activities involving the State Energy Offices and the land grant institutions of the USA and their cooperative energy extension services, and update members on routine business matters.

*Public Participation:* The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Board either before or after the meeting. Members of the public who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Gary Burch at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests to make oral comments must be received five days prior to the

meeting; reasonable provision will be made to include requested topic(s) on the agenda. The Chair of the Board is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting will be available for public review and copying within 60 days on the STEAB Web site, <http://www.steab.org>.

Issued at Washington, DC, on October 8, 2008.

**Rachel Samuel,**

*Deputy Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. E8-24396 Filed 10-14-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Energy Information Administration

#### **Solicitation of Comments on the Process and Technologies Used for Disseminating the Weekly Petroleum Status Report and the Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report**

**AGENCY:** Energy Information Administration (EIA), Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Solicitation of comments on the process and technologies used for disseminating the *Weekly Petroleum Status Report* and the *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report*.

**SUMMARY:** The EIA is requesting comments on the process and technologies used for disseminating weekly information regarding petroleum and natural gas stocks in the *Weekly Petroleum Status Report (WPSR)* and the *Weekly Natural Gas Storage Report (WNGSR)*. EIA has attempted to develop its current dissemination processes and information technologies to meet its goal of providing fair access to any interested user, but has recently faced significant challenges in this area that may require changes in the process and/or technologies used for disseminating weekly data. This request is based on EIA's mandate for carrying out a central, comprehensive and unified energy data and information program responsive to users' needs for credible, reliable and timely energy information that will improve and broaden understanding of petroleum and natural gas supply in the United States.

**DATES:** Comments must be filed by November 14, 2008. If you anticipate difficulty in submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be directed to Karen Robinson, Office of Oil and Gas. To ensure receipt of the

comments by the due date, submission by FAX (202-586-9739) or e-mail ([karen.robinson@eia.doe.gov](mailto:karen.robinson@eia.doe.gov)) is recommended. The mailing address is Office of Oil and Gas, Energy Information Administration, EI-40, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Ave., SW., Washington, DC 20585. Alternatively, Karen Robinson may be contacted by telephone at (202) 586-2585.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Requests for additional information should be directed to Karen Robinson as listed above.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

- I. Background
- II. Issues with Dissemination of Weekly Reports
- III. Request for Comments

#### **I. Background**

Every week, the EIA's Office of Oil and Gas releases two reports, one on the previous week's U.S. petroleum supply and disposition and one on natural gas storage inventories. Together, these reports provide the industry, press, planners, policymakers, consumers, analysts, and State and local governments with a ready, reliable source of current information about petroleum and natural gas.

The *WPSR* has provided timely information on supply and disposition of crude oil and principal petroleum products since April 1979. The *WPSR* was initiated to increase available information during a period of gasoline shortages arising from the repercussions of the revolution in Iran. The *WPSR* describes the supply and disposition of crude oil and petroleum products in the United States in major U.S. regions called Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts. The weekly data are used as preliminary estimates for the *Petroleum Supply Monthly (PSM)* and the *Monthly Energy Review (MER)*. While more accurate and detailed data are presented in the *PSM* based on monthly surveys, those surveys do not capture sudden or rapid changes in petroleum market conditions nor do they provide data that are timely enough to be useful in a shortfall situation.

The *WNGSR* has provided weekly estimates of working natural gas volumes held in underground storage facilities at the national and regional levels since May 2002. Weekly estimates of working natural gas in storage were first provided by the American Gas Association (AGA) starting in 1994. EIA picked up the report when the AGA announced that it would discontinue its survey. The *WNGSR* relies on weekly survey data from a sample of operators of underground storage facilities. These

data are used to prepare regional and national estimates for all underground storage. In September 2007 the *WNGSR* was designated by the Office of Management and Budget as DOE's first Principal Federal Economic Indicator.

Over time, interest in both the *WPSR* and the *WNGSR* has increased. Weekly *WPSR* and *WNGSR* results are routinely predicted by analysts, and deviations from analysts' expectations are often cited as moving futures markets in petroleum and natural gas.

As one part of its response to a problem that arose in the release of *WPSR* data on May 29, 2008, press releases issued on May 29, 2008 and June 2, 2008, announced EIA's intention to open a dialogue to discuss the technical and process challenges facing EIA in this area with users interested in accessing weekly data, including the press, trading organizations and other parties. This **Federal Register** notice initiates that dialogue. Following the exchange of information with stakeholders, EIA will develop a specific proposal for a comprehensive release process that is both fair and takes account of changing technologies and post that proposal in the **Federal Register** for comment. After considering comments, EIA will decide on and publicly announce its revised comprehensive release process before any changes are implemented.

#### **II. Issues With Dissemination of Weekly Reports**

EIA's interest is in providing fair access to any interested user, regardless of the nature of their interest, whether that interest is commercial, journalistic, academic, policy or general interest. EIA's dissemination process and information technologies attempt to meet that goal.

EIA's current practice is to load the *WPSR* and *WNGSR* on its Web site prior to the scheduled release time, behind a software "gate" that prevents access to the reports before the release time. At the release time, the gate is removed, and interested parties have access to the information.

Because oil and natural gas market participants respond extremely quickly to the information, the commercial value of the information is high but decays extremely quickly. The use of automated retrieval programs known as "robots" to access online data in combination with the ability to program trading based on data received by robots through electronic interfaces in oil and natural gas commodities markets (both futures and over-the-counter swaps) creates a situation where small time