VI. Appendixes

The following appendixes are additions to existing appendixes in the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Draft Environmental Impact Statement *(SPD Draft EIS), or in the case of Appendix P,* Environmental Synopsis of Information Provided in Response to the Request for Proposals for MOX Fuel Fabrication and Reactor Irradiation Services, *an entirely new appendix that will be added to the SPD Final EIS.*

Appendix A of this Supplement, Federal Register Notices, *includes a copy of the Notice of Intent that was published in the Federal Register regarding the decision to prepare this Supplement. It will be added to the other Federal Register Notices included in the SPD Draft EIS and reprinted in the SPD Final EIS later this year.*

Appendix K of this Supplement, Reactor Accidents, *will be appended to the existing Appendix K from the SPD Draft EIS and reprinted in the SPD Final EIS. It discusses the methodology used to analyze the reactor accidents evaluated in this Supplement for the Catawba, McGuire, and North Anna reactor sites.*

Appendix M of this Supplement, Analysis of Environmental Justice, *will be appended to the existing Appendix M from the SPD Draft EIS and reprinted in the SPD Final EIS. It discusses the minority and low-income populations surrounding the reactor sites being evaluated in this Supplement.*

Appendix P of this Supplement, Environmental Synopsis of Information Provided in Response to the Request for Proposals for MOX Fuel Fabrication and Reactor Irradiation Services, *is an entirely new appendix that will be added to the SPD Final EIS. It was developed in accordance with DOE's National Environmental Policy Act guidance in 10 CFR 1021.216, and is based on information provided by the winning bidder for operating the proposed mixed oxide (MOX) fuel fabrication facility and irradiating MOX fuel should the decision be made in the SPD EIS Record of Decision to go forward with the MOX approach.*

ajpp a.wpd

Appendix A
Federal Register Notices

A.1 NOTICE OF INTENT - SUPPLEMENT TO THE DRAFT SURPLUS PLUTONIUM DISPOSITION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Dated: March 30, 1999.

Judith Johnson,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 99-8394 Filed 4-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Arms Control and Nonproliferation Policy; Proposed Subsequent Arrangement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Subsequent arrangement.

SUMMARY: This notice is being issued under the authority of Section 131 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2160). The Department is providing notice of a "subsequent arrangement" under the Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy Between the United States of America and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) and the Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada Concerning the Civil Uses of Atomic Energy.

This subsequent arrangement concerns the transfer of 90,552,300 grams of natural uranium in the form of hexafluoride from Cameco Corporation in Canada to Urenco Limited in the United Kingdom for toll enrichment. The enrichment will not exceed 20%. The material will then be transferred to Northern States Power in Minneapolis, MN for use in their commercial power reactor.

In accordance with Section 131 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, we have determined that this subsequent arrangement will not be inimical to the common defense and security.

This subsequent arrangement will take effect no sooner than fifteen days after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: March 30, 1999.

For the Department of Energy.

Edward T. Fei,

Deputy Director, International Policy and Analysis Division, Office of Arms Control and Nonproliferation.

[FR Doc. 99-8451 Filed 4-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Arms Control and Nonproliferation Policy; Proposed Subsequent Arrangement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Subsequent Arrangement.

SUMMARY: This notice is being issued under the authority of Section 131 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2160). The Department is providing notice of a "subsequent arrangement" under the Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy Between the United States of America and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) and the Agreement for Cooperation Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Canada Concerning the Civil Uses of Atomic Energy.

This subsequent arrangement concerns the transfer of 3,078,600 grams of natural uranium in the form of hexafluoride from Cameco Corporation in Canada to Urenco Limited in the United Kingdom for toll enrichment. The enrichment will not exceed 20%. The material will then be transferred to Wolf Creek Nulcear Operation Corporation in Burlington, KS for use in their commercial power reactor.

In accordance with Section 131 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, we have determined that this subsequent arrangement will not be inimical to the common defense and security.

This subsequent arrangement will take effect no sooner than fifteen days after the date of publication of this notice.

Dated: March 30, 1999.

For the Department of Energy.

Edward T. Fei,

Deputy Director, International Policy and Analysis Division Office of Arms Control and Nonproliferation.

[FR Doc. 99-8452 Filed 4-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Supplement to the Draft Surplus Plutonium Disposition Environmental Impact Statement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intent to prepare a supplement to the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SPD EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The SPD Draft EIS (DOE/EIS-0283D) was issued for public comment in July 1998. The Supplement will update the SPD Draft EIS by examining the potential environmental impacts of using mixed oxide (MOX) fuel in six specific commercial nuclear reactors at three sites for the disposition of surplus weapons-grade plutonium. DOE identified these reactors through a competitive procurement process. The Department is planning to issue the Supplement to the SPD Draft EIS in April 1999. DOE will publish a separate Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register** at that time. This Notice of Intent describes the content of the Supplement to the SPD Draft EIS, solicits public comment on the Supplement, and announces DOE's intention to conduct a public hearing. Consistent with 40 CFR 1502.9(c)(4) and 10 CFR 1021.314(d), DOE has determined not to conduct scoping for the Supplement.

ADDRESSES: Requests for information concerning the plutonium disposition program can be submitted by calling (answering machine) or faxing them to the toll free number 1-800-820-5156, or by mailing them to: Bert Stevenson, NEPA Compliance Officer, Office of Fissile Materials Disposition, U.S. Department of Energy, Post Office Box 23786, Washington, DC 20026-3786.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For general information on the DOE NEPA process, please contact: Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20585, 202-586-4600 or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

Additional information regarding the DOE NEPA process and activities is available on the Internet through the NEPA Home Page at http://www.eh.doe.gov/nepa.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

In October 1994, the Secretary of Energy and the Congress created the Office of Fissile Materials Disposition (MD) within the Department of Energy (DOE) to focus on the elimination of surplus highly enriched uranium (HEU) and plutonium surplus to national defense needs. As one of its major responsibilities, MD is tasked with determining how to disposition surplus weapons—usable plutonium. In January 1997, DOE issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Storage and Disposition of Weapons—Usable Fissile Materials Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (S&D PEIS) (DOE/EIS-

0229; December 1996). In that ROD, DOE decided to pursue a strategy that would allow for the possibility of both the immobilization of surplus plutonium and the use of surplus plutonium as mixed oxide (MOX) fuel in existing domestic, commercial reactors. DOE is in the process of completing the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Environmental Impact Statement (SPD Draft EIS) (DOE/EIS-0283D; July 1998) to choose a site(s) for plutonium disposition activities and to determine the technology(ies) that will be used to support this effort.

Related Procurement Action

To support the timely undertaking of the surplus plutonium disposition program, DOE initiated a procurement action to contract for MOX fuel fabrication and reactor irradiation services. The services requested in this procurement process include design, licensing, construction, operation, and eventual deactivation of a MOX facility, as well as irradiation of the MOX fuel in three to eight existing domestic, commercial reactors, should the decision be made by DOE to go forward with the MOX program.

On May 19, 1998, DOE issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) (Solicitation Number DE-RP02-98CH10888) that defined limited activities that may be performed prior to issuance of the SPD EIS ROD. These activities include non-site-specific work primarily associated with the development of the initial conceptual design for the fuel fabrication facility, and plans (paper studies) for outreach, long lead-time procurements, regulatory management, facility quality assurance, safeguards, security, fuel qualifications, and deactivation. No construction would be started on a MOX fuel fabrication facility until the SPD EIS ROD is issued. The MOX facility, if built, would be DOE-owned, licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and located at one of four candidate DOE sites. DOE has designated the Savannah River Site as the preferred alternative for the MOX fuel fabrication facility.

Based on a review of proposals received in response to the RFP, DOE determined in January 1999 that one proposal was in the competitive range. Under this proposal, MOX fuel would be fabricated at a DOE site and then irradiated in one of six domestic commercial nuclear reactors.

Environmental Review During Procurement Action

An environmental critique was prepared in accordance with DOE's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations at 10 CFR 1021.216. Because an EIS is in progress on this action, DOE required offerors to submit reasonably available environmental data and analyses as a part of their proposals. DOE independently evaluated and verified the accuracy of the data provided by the offeror in the competitive range, and prepared an environmental critique for consideration before the selection was made. The Environmental Critique was used by DOE to determine:

(1) if there are any important environmental issues in the offeror's proposal that may affect the selection process; and

(2) if the potential environmental impacts of the offeror's proposal were bounded by impacts presented in the S&D PEIS and SPD Draft EIS or whether additional analysis was required in the SPD Final EIS.

As required by Section 216, the Environmental Critique included a discussion of the purpose of the procurement; the salient characteristics of the offeror's proposal; any licenses, permits or approvals needed to support the program; and an evaluation of the potential environmental impacts of the offer. The Environmental Critique is a procurement-sensitive document and subject to all associated restrictions. DOE then prepared a synopsis, which summarizes the Environmental Critique and reduces business-sensitive information to a level that will not compromise the procurement process. The Synopsis will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and made available to the public.

Contract Award

As a result of the procurement process described above, in March 1999, the Department of Energy contracted with Duke Engineering & Services, COGEMA, Inc., and Stone & Webster to provide mixed oxide fuel fabrication and reactor irradiation services. The team, known as DUKE COGEMA STONE & WEBSTER or DCS, has its corporate headquarters in Charlotte, NC. Subcontractors to DCS include Duke Power Company, Charlotte, NC and Virginia Power Company, Richmond, VA, who will provide the reactor facilities in which mixed oxide fuel will be used upon receipt of Nuclear Regulatory Commission license amendments. Other major subcontractors include Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc., Erwin, TN; Belgonucleaire, Brussels, Belgium; and Framatome Cogema Fuels of Lynchburg, VA. Under the contract, the team will also modify six existing U.S. commercial light water reactors at three sites to irradiate mixed oxide fuel assemblies. These reactors sites are Catawba in York, SC; McGuire in Huntersville, NC; and North Anna in Mineral, VA. The team will be responsible for obtaining a license to operate the fuel fabrication facility and the license modifications for the reactors from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Full execution of this contract is contingent on DOE's completion of the SPD EIS, as provided by 40 CFR 1021.216(i).

Supplement to the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The purpose of the Supplement to the SPD Draft EIS is to update the Draft by including specific information available as a result of the award of the DCS contract. The Supplement to the SPD Draft EIS will contain background information on the SPD Draft EIS; changes made to the SPD Draft EIS (Section 1.7.2); a description of the reactor sites (Section 3.7); impacts of irradiating mixed oxide fuel in existing light water reactors (Section 4.28); Facility Accidents (Appendix K); Analysis of Environmental Justice (Appendix M); and the Environmental Synopsis (Appendix O).

DOE anticipates that the Supplement to the SPD Draft EIS will be available in April. DOE intends to hold an interactive hearing in Washington, DC in May 1999 to discuss issues and receive oral and written comments on the Supplement to the Draft SPD EIS. The Notice of Availability will provide specific information concerning the date, time and location for the public hearing.

Issued in Washington, DC this 31st day of March 1999, for the United States Department of Energy.

David Michaels,

Assistant Secretary, Environment, Safety and Health.

[FR Doc. 99-8455 Filed 4-5-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science; Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a meeting of the Biological and Environmental Research Advisory Committee. Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) requires that public notice of