

includes environmental review provisions.

The PEIS collected and analyzed this information as it applies to wind energy development in the six states included in the UGP Region. Specifically, through the PEIS Western and the Service have:

1. Defined areas with a high potential for wind energy development near the UGP Region's transmission system in anticipation of future wind-generation interconnection requests.

2. Defined natural and human environment resources in areas with high wind energy development potential, including Native American lands, to support analyses of the environmental impacts and development of wind energy projects.

3. Identified standardized environmental evaluation procedures, avoidance areas, best management practices, and mitigation measures to be used by interconnection applicants for identifying and reducing wind energy development impacts of their projects on the natural and human environment.

4. Initiated a programmatic ESA Section 7 informal consultation for federally listed and proposed threatened and endangered species within the study area boundaries established for the PEIS that may be affected by future wind energy development.

5. Provided guidance for interconnection applicants that includes information about natural resources within areas with a high potential for wind development, requirements for subsequent site-specific environmental reviews, avoidance areas, and appropriate best management practices and mitigation measures to address adverse environmental impacts related to wind projects and associated transmission system enhancements.

The Service maintains a grassland and wetland easement program to support and enhance waterfowl populations in the Prairie Pothole Region. The Service has developed a plan that will, in some circumstances, allow partial release of an easement for wind generation purposes, only with defined conditions and on a specified area, in exchange for additional easement acreage being conveyed to the Service. A streamlined approach for compliance with NEPA and ESA for future site-specific wind development projects would result from this PEIS, and would benefit both agencies.

Western and the Service are engaged in informal consultation under Section 7 of the ESA in support of the PEIS process. A Programmatic Biological Assessment has been prepared for listed and candidate species occurring in the UGP Region, and it is expected that the

Service's Ecological Services Field Office will issue a letter of concurrence as a result of this consultation.

Separate Records of Decision addressing each agency's Federal actions will be issued by Western and the Service not sooner than 30 days after distribution of the Final PEIS and the date of the Environmental Protection Agency's weekly **Federal Register** notice listing the availability of the EIS.

Dated: April 21, 2015.

**Mark A. Gabriel,**

*Administrator, Western Area Power Administration.*

Dated: January 28, 2015.

**Matt Hogan,**

*Deputy Regional Director, Mountain-Prairie Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[ER-FRL-9020-7]

### Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability

*Responsible Agency:* Office of Federal Activities, General Information (202) 564-7146 or <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/>.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements

Filed 04/20/2015 Through 04/24/2015 Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

### Notice

Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act requires that EPA make public its comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies. EPA's comment letters on EISs are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html>.

*EIS No. 20150117, Draft EIS, NPS, HI, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Draft General Management Plan and Wilderness Study, Comment Period Ends: 06/30/2015, Contact: Cindy Orlando 808-985-6026.*

*EIS No. 20150118, Draft Supplement, USACE, CA, Mather Specific Plan, Comment Period Ends: 06/15/2015, Contact: Mary Pakenham-Walsh 916-557-7718.*

*EIS No. 20150119, Final EIS, OSM, NM, Four Corners Power Plant and Navajo Mine Energy Project, Review Period Ends: 06/01/2015, Contact: Mychal Yellowman 303-293-5049.*

*EIS No. 20150120, Final EIS, WAPA, USFWS, 00, PROGRAMMATIC—Upper Great Plains Wind Energy Project, Review Period Ends: 06/01/*

2015, Contact: Mark Wieringa 720-962-7448.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Western Area Power Administration and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service are joint lead agencies for the above project.

*EIS No. 20150121, Final EIS, BLM, WY, TransWest Express Transmission Project, Review Period Ends: 06/01/2015, Contact: Sharon Knowlton 307-775-6124.*

*EIS No. 20150122, Final EIS, APHIS, OR, ADOPTION—Double-crested Cormorant Management Plan to Reduce Predation of Juvenile Salmonids in the Columbia River Estuary, Contact: Kevin Christensen 503-326-2346.*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has adopted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers FEIS #20150122, filed with the U.S. EPA on 2/25/2015. APHIS was a cooperating agency on this project, therefore, recirculation of the document is not necessary under section 1506.3(c) of CEQ Regulations.

Dated: April 28, 2015.

**Cliff Rader,**

*Director, NEPA Compliance Division, Office of Federal Activities.*

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0034; FRL-9927-08-OEI]

### Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Voluntary Aluminum Industrial Partnership (VAIP) (Renewal)

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), Voluntary Aluminum Industrial Partnership (VAIP) (Renewal)—EPA ICR No. 1867.05, OMB Control No. 2060-0411—to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through June 30, 2015. An agency may not conduct or sponsor and