DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

International Energy Agency Meetings

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Industry Advisory Board (IAB) to the International Energy Agency (IEA) will meet on October 14, 2015, at the headquarters of the IEA in Paris, France, in connection with a joint meeting of the IEA’s Standing Group on Emergency Questions (SEQ) and the IEA’s Standing Group on Oil Market (SOM), to be held on the same date.

DATES: October 14, 2015.

ADDRESSES: 9, rue de la Fédération, Paris, France.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with section 252(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6272(c)(1)(A)(i)) (EPCA), the following notice of meeting is provided:

Meetings of the Industry Advisory Board (IAB) to the International Energy Agency (IEA) will be held at the headquarters of the IEA, 9, rue de la Fédération, Paris, France, on October 14, 2015, commencing at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this notice is to permit attendance by representatives of U.S. company members of the IAB at a joint meeting of the IEA’s Standing Group on Emergency Questions (SEQ) and the IEA’s Standing Group on the Oil Markets (SOM), which is scheduled to be held at the same location and time. The IAB will also hold a preparatory meeting among company representatives at the same location at 8:30 a.m. on October 14. The agenda for this preparatory meeting is to review the agenda for the SEQ meeting.

The expected participants at the SEQ meeting are Government delegates from IEA Member Countries, representatives of the IEA Secretariat, and representatives of some or all of the following companies and associations, each of which is a member of the IAB: BHP Petroleum BP Chevron Corporation ConocoPhillips Inc. ENI S.p.A. ExxonMobil Corp. Fortum Japan Petroleum Development Association MOL Neste Oil OMV A.G. Petro-Canada Ltd. Petroleum Association of Japan PKN ORELS S.A. Repsol Shell International StatOil Total S.A.

Representatives of Directorate-General for Competition of the European Commission and representatives of members of the IEA Group of Reporting Companies may attend the meeting as observers. The meeting will also be open to representatives of the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission severally, to any United States Government employee designated by the Secretary of Energy, and to the representatives of Committees of the Congress.

The agenda of the SEQ meeting is under the control of the SEQ. It is expected that the SEQ will adopt the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Summary Record of the 143th Meeting
3. Status of Compliance with IEP Agreement Stockholding Obligations
4. Australian Compliance Update
5. ERR Programme
6. Mid-term Review of Turkey
7. Emergency Response Review of Denmark
8. Mid-term Review of Austria
9. Emergency Response Review of Norway
10. Outreach Activities
11. Emergency Response Review of Poland
12. Saving Oil in a Hurry
13. Industry Advisory Board Update
14. Analysis of the potential size of the Oil Stocks Ticket Market
15. Outline of ERR8 Plans
16. Ministerial
17. Oral Reports by Administrations
18. Other Business

Schedule of Next SEQ & SOM Meetings:

—March 15–17, 2016
—May 31–June 2, 2016
—September 27–29, 2016

This notice is being published less than 15 days prior to the meeting date due to logistical issues caused by late notice of the meeting being provided to DOE.

Issued in Washington, DC, October 2, 2015.

Thomas Reilly,
Assistant General Counsel for International and National Security Programs.

BILLY CODE 4000–01–P
Robert D. Willis Power Rate

AGENCY: Southwestern Power Administration, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of public review and comment.

SUMMARY: The Acting Administrator, Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern), has prepared Current and Revised 2015 Power Repayment Studies for the Robert D. Willis project which show the need for an increase in annual revenues to meet cost recovery criteria. Such increased revenues are needed primarily to cover the costs associated with increased operations and maintenance costs, increased interest expense plus increased costs associated with investments and replacements in the hydroelectric generating facilities. The Acting Administrator of Southwestern has developed a proposed Robert D. Willis Rate Schedule, which is supported by power repayment studies, to recover the required revenues. The Revised 2015 Power Repayment Study indicates that the proposed Rate Schedule would increase annual revenues approximately 8.6 percent from $1,181,496 to $1,282,836 effective January 1, 2016 through September 30, 2019.

DATES: The consultation and comment period will end on November 9, 2015. If requested, a combined Public Information and Comment Forum (Forum) will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma at 9:00 a.m. on October 28, 2015. Persons desiring the Forum to be held must send a written request for such Forum to the Senior Vice President, Chief Operating Officer (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT) by October 16, 2015. If no request is received, the Forum will not be held.

ADDRESSES: If requested, the Forum will be held in Southwestern’s offices, Room 1460, Williams Center Tower I, One West Third Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marshall Boyken, Senior Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, Office of Corporate Operations, Southwestern Power Administration, U.S. Department of Energy, One West Third Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74103, (918) 595–6646,marshall.boyken@swpa.gov.


Southwestern markets power from 24 multi-purpose reservoir projects with hydroelectric power facilities constructed and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). These projects are located in the states of Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. Southwestern’s marketing area includes these states plus Kansas and Louisiana. The costs associated with the hydropower facilities of 22 of the 24 projects are repaid via revenues received under the Integrated System rates, as are the costs associated with Southwestern’s transmission facilities that consist of 1,380 miles of high-voltage transmission lines, 25 substations, and 46 microwave and VHF radio sites. Costs associated with the Sam Rayburn and Robert D. Willis Dams, two Corps projects that are isolated hydraulically, electrically, and financially from the Integrated System, are repaid by separate rate schedules.

Guidelines for preparation of power repayment studies are included in DOE Order No. RA 6120.2 entitled Power Marketing Administration Financial Reporting. Following DOE guidelines, Southwestern prepared a 2015 Current Power Repayment Study using the existing Robert D. Willis Rate Schedule. This study indicates that Southwestern’s legal requirement to repay the investment in the power generating facility for power and energy marketed by Southwestern will not be met without an increase in revenues. The need for increased revenues is primarily due to increased operations and maintenance costs, increased interest expense plus increased costs associated with investments and replacements in the Corps hydroelectric generating facilities. The 2015 Revised Power Repayment Study shows that additional annual revenues of $101,340 (an 8.6 percent increase), beginning January 1, 2016, are needed to satisfy repayment criteria.

Due to concerns expressed by Southwestern’s customers during the development of the 2015 Power Repayment Studies regarding implementation of the proposed increase just a few months after fully implementing the existing rate schedule which consisted of a 10.2 percent revenue increase, Southwestern is proposing to increase revenue in two steps over a two-year period. Because Southwestern’s current rates are sufficient to recover all average operation and maintenance expenses during the next two years, the ability to meet both annual and long-term repayment criteria is satisfied by increasing revenues in two steps over the period.

The first step of the rate increase, beginning January 1, 2016, would incorporate one half of the required revenue or 4.3 percent ($50,670). The second step of the rate increase, beginning January 1, 2017 and ending on September 30, 2019, would incorporate the remaining revenue. 

1 FERC, on June 3, 2015, confirmed and approved the existing Robert D. Willis rate schedule for the period January 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018. See 151 FERC ¶ 62,156.