

electronic filing. If you submit them by mail and would like to know if they reached the Facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope. We will consider all comments and materials received during the comment period. (For additional information about this notice or the EIS, contact Commander Mark Prescott, U.S. Coast Guard at (202) 267-0225 or mprescott@comdt.uscg.mil.)

Background Information

The Deepwater Port Act of 1974, as amended (the Act, 33 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*), defines a deepwater port as any fixed or floating manmade structure other than a vessel, or any group of such structures, that are located beyond State seaward boundaries and that are used or intended for use as a port or terminal for the transportation, storage, or further handling of oil or natural gas for transportation to any State. The Act provides that an applicant must submit detailed plans for a proposed facility to the Secretary of Transportation, along with its license application. The Secretary has delegated the processing of deepwater port applications to the Coast Guard and the Maritime Administration (MARAD). The Act provides "For all applications, the Secretary, in cooperation with other involved Federal agencies and departments, shall comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332)." This notice is intended to meet the requirements of NEPA and to provide general information about the procedure that will be followed in complying with NEPA.

Proposed Action

The Coast Guard intends to prepare an EIS consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the Deepwater Port Act of 1974, as amended (the Act, 33 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*), NEPA (Section 102(2)(c), as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508)), Department of Transportation (DOT) Order 5610.1C (Procedures for Considering Environmental Impacts), and Coast Guard Policy (Commandant's Instruction (COMDTINST) M16475.1D). The Coast Guard anticipates having one or more cooperating agencies in this endeavor.

NEPA requires Federal agencies to consider environmental impacts that may result from a proposed action, to inform the public of potential impacts and alternatives, and to facilitate public involvement in the assessment process. The EIS describes in detail the nature and extent of the environmental impacts

of the Proposed Action and each alternative and discusses appropriate mitigation measures for any adverse impacts. An EIS includes, among other matters, discussions of the purpose and need for the Proposed Action, a description of alternatives, a description of the affected environment, and an evaluation of the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives.

The Port Pelican EIS will assess the impacts of the alternatives, including approving or not approving (No Action Alternative) the license application to construct and operate Port Pelican, on the natural and human environment. The application addresses the Port Pelican Terminal (the Terminal), an LNG receiving, storage and regasification facility, and the Pelican Interconnector Pipeline (PIPL) to transport the gas to the existing offshore gas gathering and transmission system. Port Pelican would consist of two concrete gravity based structure (GBS) units fixed to the seabed, which would include integral LNG storage tanks, support deck mounted LNG receiving and vaporization equipment and utilities, berthing accommodations for LNG carriers, facilities for delivery of natural gas to a pipeline transportation system, and personnel accommodations. The Terminal would be able to receive the largest LNG carriers currently in service or under contract for construction. All marine systems, communication, navigation aids and equipment necessary to conduct safe LNG carrier operations and receiving of product would be provided at the port.

The Terminal would be constructed in two phases. Phase I includes the installation of the two GBS units with internal storage tanks and facilities for LNG offloading, and vaporization capability to deliver a peak 1.0 billion standard cubic feet per day (SCFD) of natural gas to the pipeline system. Additional vaporization equipment and associated support equipment and facilities would be installed during Phase II to increase the peak facility vaporization and send out rate to 2.0 billion SCFD.

As required by NEPA, the Coast Guard also will analyze the No Action Alternative as a baseline for comparing the impacts of the proposed project. For the purposes of this project, the No Action Alternative is defined as not approving the Port Pelican LLC Deepwater Port License Application. The Coast Guard encourages public participation in the EIS process. The scoping period will begin upon publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** and continue for a period of 30 days. A scoping meeting may be held.

If one is held, the date and location of the meeting will be announced separately in the **Federal Register**. Multiple methods for providing comments are available, including mail, Internet and fax.

Following the scoping process, the Coast Guard will prepare a draft EIS. A Notice of Availability will be published in the **Federal Register** when the draft EIS is available. Public notices will be mailed or emailed to those who have requested a copy of the draft EIS. The public will be provided an opportunity to review the draft EIS and to offer appropriate comments.

Comments received during the draft EIS review period will be available in the public docket and made available in the final EIS. A Notice of Availability of the final EIS will also be published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: March 31, 2003.

Howard L. Hime,

Acting Director of Standards, Marine Safety, Security, and Environmental Protection, U.S. Coast Guard.

Margaret D. Blum,

Associate Administrator, Port, Intermodal, and Environmental Activities, U.S. Maritime Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-4817-N-05]

Notice of Proposed Information Collection for Public Comment—PHA-Owned or Leased Projects, Maintenance and Operation—Resident Allowance for Utilities Documentation

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* June 6, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name and/or OMB Control number and should be sent to: Mildred M. Hamman, Reports Liaison Officer, Public and Indian Housing,