

Dated: August 1, 2003.

Jeffrey J. Clarke,  
Chief Historian.

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Denver Water's Moffat Collection System Project; Correction

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice; dates correction.

**SUMMARY:** The public scoping meetings scheduled for October 7, 2003 and October 9, 2003 published in the **Federal Register** on September 17, 2003 (68 FR 54432) did not contain the street address for the locations.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Chandler Peter, (307) 772-2300.

#### Correction

In the **Federal Register** of September 17, 2003, in FR Doc. 03-23733, on page 54432, in the second column, correct items 1 and 3 in the **DATES** caption to read:

1. October 7, 2003, 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the Fairview High School Cafeteria, 1550 Greenbriar Boulevard, Boulder, CO.
3. October 9, 2003, 7 to 9:30 p.m. at The Inn at Silver Creek Convention Center, West Peak Room, 62927 US Highway 40, Silver Creek, CO.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Dam Powerhouse Rehabilitations and Possible Operational Changes at the Wolf Creek, Center Hill, and Dale Hollow Dams, Kentucky and Tennessee

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Corps of Engineers (Corps), Nashville District, will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement

(DEIS) relating to the proposed dam powerhouse rehabilitations and possible operational changes at the Wolf Creek, Center Hill, and Dale Hollow Dams in Kentucky and Tennessee. This process is necessary to provide National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance for proposed changes to the features of the project from that described in previous NEPA documents, which include the Continued Operation and Maintenance Environmental Assessments for each of the named projects and the January 1989 Wolf Creek Hydropower Draft Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment. The Corps is studying the possible impacts of modifying existing equipment. Due to improvements in technology, rehabilitating the equipment would make it possible to produce significantly more power from the same amount of water discharged. Changes in equipment and operational procedures could also cause higher tailwater heights and velocities, but as there is a limited amount of water they would be for shorter duration. In addition, alterations to flow regimes are being considered to provide minimum flows when hydropower releases are shut off. If improvements are successful, other dams may eventually be considered for similar changes.

**DATES:** Written scoping comments on issues to be considered in the DEIS will be accepted by the Corps of Engineers until November 28, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** Scoping comments should be mailed to Wayne Easterling, Project Planning Branch, Nashville District Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 1070 (PM-P), Nashville, TN 37202-1070, or may be e-mailed to

[wayne.s.easterling@usace.army.mil](mailto:wayne.s.easterling@usace.army.mil).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information concerning the proposed action and DEIS, please contact Wayne Easterling, Project Planning Branch, (615) 736-7847.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The intent of the DEIS is to provide NEPA compliance for changes in design features and operating procedures of the Wolf Creek, Center Hill, and Dale Hollow Dams in the Cumberland River system. All three dams are of a similar age, and the turbines and related equipment are well beyond their projects life, and have similar proposed rehabilitation and operational changes. Operating and equipment changes that will be studied could potentially affect more than a combined total 60 miles of tailwaters. This would primarily be a result of efforts to raise dissolved oxygen levels to at least meet the minimum state water quality standards,

although flows and elevations could also be altered for a significant distance. Furthermore, if the proposed changes prove desirable, they could set a precedent for future rehabilitations at other hydropower facilities. The Corps, therefore, proposes to evaluate these dams programmatically.

2. The three dams considered under this Environmental Impact Statement, Wolf Creek Dam, Center Hill Dam, and Dale Hollow Dam, were authorized in the 1930s and constructed in the 1940s before there was a significant concern for environmental protection. They all predate the NEPA, the Clean Water Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and many other related environmental laws and regulations. Together these three Corps projects affect the temperatures, flows, and dissolved oxygen (DO) levels of up to 250 miles of the Cumberland River and its tributaries. The Corps is studying the possible impacts of modifying existing structures or operating procedures to improve DO in the tailwaters. Alterations to flow regimes are being considered to provide minimum flows below the dams when hydropower releases are shut off.

3. Key proposed project features to be evaluated in the DEIS include the following:

a. Rehabilitation of turbines including Auto Venting Turbines to improve DO levels in the tailwaters.

b. Minimum releases to ensure continuous flows between periods of generation.

c. The effects of increased tailwater flows on tailwater parks, downstream fishing areas, adjacent low lying farmlands, erosion of riverbanks, cultural archaeological and historic sites, and changes to the hydraulics and hydrology of the rivers.

d. Other alternatives studied will include: No Action; restoration to the "original" 1948 condition; refurbishing existing units; oxygenating water in the dam fore bays prior to release; and spilling water through the floodgates.

4. This notice serves to solicit scoping comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received during the comment period will be considered in the NEPA process. Comments are used to assess impacts on fish and wildlife, endangered species, historic properties, water quality, water supply and conservation, economics, aesthetics, wetlands, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, energy