

IEA's Standing Group on Emergency Questions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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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:

A meeting 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 November 19, 2003, beginning at 2 p.m. The purpose of this notice is to permit attendance by representatives of U.S. company members of the IAB at a meeting of the IEA's Standing Group on Emergency Questions (SEQ), which is scheduled to be held at the IEA on November 19, beginning at 3 p.m. and continuing on November 20, beginning at 9:30 a.m., including a preparatory encounter among company representatives from approximately 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on November 19.

The agenda for the preparatory encounter among company representatives is a review of the SEQ's meeting agenda. 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 108th Meeting
3. Program of Work 2003–2004
 - Review of SEQ Activities 2003–2004
 - Projects for Surplus Publication Revenues
 - First Steps Toward Emergency Response Exercise 3
4. Update on Compliance with International Energy Program Stockholding Commitments
 - Reports by Non-Complying Member Countries
5. The Current Oil Market Situation
6. Report on the IEA Berlin Seminar on Oil Stocks and New Challenges to the Oil Market
7. Oil Stocks and the Oil Market
8. Report on Current Activities of the IAB
9. Other Policy and Legislative Developments in Member Countries
10. Other Emergency Response Activities
11. Recent Oil Developments in Iraq

12. World Energy Investment Outlook to 2030: Key Trends and Uncertainties
13. Activities with Non-Member Countries and International Organizations
 - Workshop on ASEAN Oil Security and Emergency Preparedness
 - Joint Oil Data Initiative (JODI), Cairo, October 8–9, 2003
 - Trends and the IEA Role in Emergency Stockholding in Non-Member Countries
 - Stockbuilding Workshop in India, January 20, 2004
 - IEA and EU Stockholding Obligations
14. Emergency Response Reviews of IEA Member and Candidate Countries
 - Revised Schedule of Emergency Response Reviews for 2003–2004
15. Other Documents for Information
 - Emergency Reserve Situation of IEA Member Countries on July 1, 2003
 - Emergency Reserve Situation of IEA Candidate Countries on July 1, 2003
 - Monthly Oil Statistics: August 2003
 - Base Period Final Consumption: 3Q2002–1Q2003
 - Quarterly Oil Forecast: 4Q2003
 - Panel of Arbitrators: Korean representation
 - Update of Emergency Contacts List
16. Other Business
 - Dates of Next Meetings: March 16–18, 2004, June 23–24, 2004, October 25–29, 2004

As provided in section 252(c)(1)(A)(ii) of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6272(c)(1)(A)(ii)), this meeting is open only to representatives of members of the IAB and their counsel; representatives of members of the SEQ; representatives of the Departments of Energy, Justice, and State, the Federal Trade Commission, the General Accounting Office, Committees of Congress, the IEA, and the European Commission; and invitees of the IAB, the SEQ, or the IEA.

Issued in Washington, DC, November 4, 2003.

Samuel M. Bradley,

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Proposed Procedures for Distribution of Remaining Crude Oil Overcharge Refunds

AGENCY: Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of proposed procedures for distribution of remaining crude oil

overcharge refunds and opportunity for comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) announces, in this notice, proposed procedures for making the final round of payments to successful claimants in the crude oil overcharge refund proceeding. In May 2003, the United States District Court for the District of Columbia issued a decision in *Consolidated Edison Company of New York v. Abraham*, No. CIV.A.1:01CV00548 (D.D.C. May 9, 2003) (Westlaw, 2003 WL 21692698), *appeal docketed*, No. 03–1498 (Fed. Cir.), which, *inter alia*, rendered a declaratory judgment that successful claimants are entitled to a distribution of the entire remaining amount of crude oil overcharges reserved for direct restitution, “insofar as practicable.” OHA will therefore make a final distribution in the long-standing crude oil refund proceeding.

DATES: Comments may be filed by January 12, 2004.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be addressed to: Crude Oil Refund Proceeding, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585–1615, and submitted electronically to crudeoilrefunds@hq.doe.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Tami L. Kelly, Secretary, or Thomas O. Mann, Deputy Director, Office of Hearings and Appeals, Department of Energy; telephone: 202–287–1449, e-mail: tami.kelly@hq.doe.gov, thomas.mann@hq.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

Over two decades ago—during the period August 1973 through January 1981—federal regulations governed the pricing and allocation of domestic crude oil and refined petroleum product (“the controls period”). During this controls period and for some time afterwards, DOE took enforcement actions against firms for violating those regulations. As a result of those actions, firms in the petroleum industry remitted several billion dollars in crude oil overcharges to DOE.

The largest court proceeding involving crude oil overcharges was multidistrict litigation over the pricing of crude oil produced from low-output “stripper wells.” Once the existence of overcharges was established, a federal district court considered the issue of how those funds should be distributed in order to make restitution to injured parties. *In Re The Department of Energy*