

Official Notice to Prepare a Supplement Analysis for the Five-Year Evaluation of the *Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Continued Operation of the Pantex Plant and Associated Storage of Nuclear Weapon Components*

**U.S. Department of Energy/
National Nuclear Security Administration
Pantex Site Office
Pantex Plant**

The Pantex Site Office (PXSO) of the Department of Energy/National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) is required under the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures (10 CFR 1021) to periodically review ongoing major programmatic actions. It is the objective of PXSO to prepare a Supplement Analysis (SA) for the 1996 Pantex Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement (SWEIS). 10 CFR 1021.330 requires the Department to review the adequacy of its site-wide NEPA documents every five years. The purpose of this SA is to satisfy DOE's requirement to re-evaluate the 1996 SWEIS.

A separate chapter of this SA will be devoted to an analysis on raising the current limits for detonating explosive charges in open air. This chapter will analyze impacts of both the airblast noise at the fenceline of the Pantex Plant in terms of decibels and ground shock through seismograph readings. Limits for the various onsite facilities will be recommended, based on the bounding conditions.

Based on the Supplement Analysis, PXSO will determine whether the existing SWEIS remains adequate or whether to prepare a new sitewide EIS or supplement the existing EIS, as appropriate. The determination and supporting analysis will be made available in the DOE public reading rooms.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE DOE NEPA PROCESS: Information on general DOE NEPA-related information is available from: The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (GC-20), 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585-0119 or leave a message on our toll-free number: 1-800-472-2756; fax: 202-586-7031; or e-mail our Webmaster at: denise.freeman@hq.doe.gov.