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Cc: [darrell_echols](#)
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Subject: Re: question from meeting
Date: 11/25/2009 01:31 PM

Hi Irene,

I checked with Sandy Hamilton to confirm the public comment opportunities and related time frames for the CAHA ORV plan and special regulation. According to Sandy:

There would be a 60-day comment period on the DEIS and a 60-day comment period on the proposed rule. There is a 30-day waiting period between the publication in the Federal Register of the EPA Notice of Availability for the FEIS and when the Record of Decision for the FEIS is signed. A comment analysis and a "response to comments" is prepared by NPS for comments on the DEIS. A "response to comments" is also prepared on the proposed rule and published in the preamble to the final rule. A comment analysis and a "response to comments" are not prepared for any comments on the FEIS. The 30 days between the FEIS and the Record of Decision is termed a "waiting period," rather than a "comment period." Although people sometimes choose to send comments during the 30-day "waiting period," it's not a "comment period." Final rules normally take effect 30 days after their publication in the Federal Register. This is also a waiting period. Its purpose is to give those whose actions are affected by the rule the opportunity to be informed of the new requirements. There is some flexibility with the 60-day comment period for the proposed rule which may be a shorter period in special cases requiring more timely action. In these cases, the reasons for the shorter comment period must be explained in the preamble to the proposed rule. I expect we would do the full 60-day comment period on the proposed rule.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

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11/24/2009 06:46 PM

Please respond to
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Subject question from meeting

Mike and/or Darrell,

I know the day before Thanksgiving isn't a good day to get an answer to a question, but if either of you is checking email, I have one.

I am writing tomorrow on last week's meeting -- specifically on timing and DEIS and steps after that. (Sorry, but last week was about nothing but storm, storm, storm).

Darrell mentioned that there would be three public comment periods in the process -- two for 60 days and one for 30 days. I have that very clearly in my notes.

I've just finished comparing notes with Mary Helen.

Our notes agree that there is a 60-day comment period after DEIS issued and again after FEIS. But we can't figure out where the 30-day comes in.

So where is it?

And proposed rule, corresponding to preferred alternative, comes when -- concurrent with DEIS comment or after after? at one point in my notes, it looks as if proposed rule might be part of FEIS.

Any help will be appreciated. This really gives me a headache so I can imagine what it does to you!

If I don't hear from you, I will shift the issue and catch up later.

Have a good Thanksgiving.

Irene

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