account in making the determination. If the interested employer is located in the agent State, the latter will have the responsibility to notify the employer of the opportunity to appear at the local office, and if he elects to make an appearance, to schedule it at an appropriate time.

B. Application of Java Decision to Federal Unemployment Insurance, Training Allowances and Related Payments

The requirements for paying benefits promptly after a determination has been made in the claimant's favor, regardless of the pendency of the appeal period or of any appeal that has been taken from the determination, are applicable to Federal claims. The requirement of notice to an interested employer and opoprtunity to be heard will, however, have no effect on those programs which do not involve employers as interested parties.

Following are specifics on application of the requirement for notice and opportunity to be heard relating to the various kinds of Federal claims.

UCFE: (Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees)

When a private employer is an interested party to a UCFE claim, the procedures for notice and opportunity to be heard with respect to State UI claims are applicable.

When a Federal agency is an interested party to a UCFE claim, the *Java* decision does not change present methods of processing so long as findings of the Federal agency, in writing, which are final and conclusive, are applicable in determining the claim.

UCX: (Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicemen)

When a private employer is an interested party to a UCX claim, the procedures for notice and opportunity to be heard with respect to State UI claims are applicable.

When a Federal agency which employed the claimant as a civilian employee is an interested party, the procedures applicable to UCFE claims apply. For the purpose of the *Java* procedure, a branch of the Armed Forces for which a UCX claimant served on active military duty is never considered to be an interested party with respect to reasons for separation or for not reenlisting or for not continuing on active duty, since the State agency does not apply the eligibility or disqualification provisions of the State unemployment insurance law to any of these. Thus in such cases the notice-and-opportunity-to-be-heard requirement of the *Java* decision is not applicable.

TRA: (Trade Readjustment Allowances)

The procedures for implementing the *Java* decision for State UI claims, with respect to notice and opportunity to be heard, are applicable to TRA claims with respect to employers who are interested parties to an issue.

Training Allowances, Disaster Unemployment Assistance and Other Similar Federal Payments

The procedures implementing the *Java* decision, with respect to notice and opportunity to be heard, have no effect on factfinding procedures for determination of issues arising under the Manpower Development and Training Act (MDTA), the Work Incentive Program (WIN), or the Disaster Unemployment Assistance provisions of the Disaster Relief Act of 1970. There is no employer or other interested party involved in such cases. Established procedures for the factfinding claimant interview and notice of determination satisfy the requirements for predetermination proceedings.

C. Monetary Determinations

It should not be assumed that, because the facts in the *Java* case presented a nonmonetary determination issue, the Court's requirements do not also apply to monetary determinations and redeterminations. The principles are equally applicable when monetary determinations or redeterminations involve issues of fact although the manner in which they must be applied necessarily is affected by the nature of the issues and the processes required to resolve them. Some monetary "issues," for example, are simply questions of computation or other operational matters that relate entirely to the processing of data already contained in the agency's records. To settle such questions, the State agency need not seek information from either the employer or the claimant and there is no occasion for appearance by either at an interview.

Some monetary issues, however, present questions which cannot be resolved from a review of the agency's records. For example, a claimant may question the correctness of an employer's wage report underlying the agency record on which the claimant's monetary determination was based. Yet another claimant may contend that his monetary determination has not taken into account wages he earned during his base period that an employer omitted from his report because, in his view, there was no employment relationship. Common agency practice in such cases is to make a field investigation including a visit to the employer's place of business, a review of his records and an interview with the employer or the appropriate members of his staff who have the necessary pertinent information. The facts thus obtained, together with the information submitted by the claimant, are then used in resolving the issue and as the basis for the necessary monetary redetermination. When this is the case, the process used has itself provided an appearance by the employer in the factfinding proceeding in addition to his written submittal. There would ordinarily appear to be no need to provide the employer in such cases with yet a further opportunity to appear in the factfinding proceeding that precedes the monetary determination or redetermination in question. The common agency practice of reinterviewing the claimant after the results of the field investigation are available assures claimant of his opportunity to appear and be heard before the determination is made.

[FR Doc. 00–30266 Filed 11–27–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510–30–P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[Notice 00–139]

National Environmental Policy Act; Mars Surveyor 2001 Mission

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

ACTION: Finding of no significant impact.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and NASA policy and procedures (14 CFR Part 1216, Subpart 1216.3), NASA is providing notice that although a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Mars Surveyor 2001 Mission was prepared and public comments were elicited and received, a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) will not be prepared. Instead, NASA has made a finding of no significant impact (FONSI).

The Mars Surveyor 2001 (MS 01) mission as proposed in the DEIS originally consisted of the launch and operation of two separate spacecraft—the MS 01 orbiter and the MS 01 lander/rover. The DEIS addressed the potential environmental impacts associated with implementation of this mission configuration (the Proposed Action) and included a risk assessment for potential launch accidents involving the release of radioactive material from the MS 01 lander/rover spacecraft. The MS 01 orbiter spacecraft would carry no radioactive material or other extremely hazardous materials or equipment and, hence, would involve a conventional launch entailing no significant effects to the quality of the human environment. The DEIS also addressed the potential environmental impacts of alternatives to this Proposed Action as well as the No Action alternative.

Events that occurred during the intervening months since publication of the DEIS, including loss of the Mars Polar Lander mission on December 3, 1999, early in the public review period for the DEIS, have resulted in a reevaluation by NASA of the Mars Surveyor 2001 mission. As a result of that reevaluation, NASA has proposed to reconfigure the Mars Surveyor 2001 mission to launch only the MS 01 orbiter spacecraft in 2001. Thus the FONSI issued today covers the proposed reconfigured Mars Surveyor 2001 mission, specifically launch of the MS 01 orbiter only. Should NASA decide at

some future date to launch the MS 01 lander/rover spacecraft, a separate NEPA document will be prepared in accordance with applicable policy and procedures.

The MS 01 orbiter would be launched in April 2001 from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS), Florida, onboard a Delta II 7925 expendable launch vehicle.

DATES: Comments in response to this FONSI must be provided in writing to NASA on or before December 28, 2000

ADDRESSES: Comments in response to this FONSI should be addressed to Mr. Mark R. Dahl, NASA Headquarters, Code SD, 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546. The DEIS prepared for the Mars Surveyor 2001 mission which supports this FONSI may be reviewed at:

1. NASA Headquarters, Library, Room 1J20, 300 E Street SW, Washington, DC 20546.
2. NASA, Spaceport USA, Room 2001, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Florida, 32899 (321–867–2622). Please call Ms. Penny Myers at 321–867–8007 so that arrangements can be made.
3. Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Visitors Lobby, Building 249, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, CA 91109 (818–354–5179). Other locations where the DEIS can be examined are listed in the Supplementary Information section below.

A limited number of copies of the DEIS are available to persons wishing a copy by contacting Mr. Dahl at the address or telephone number provided herein. The DEIS is also available in Adobe Acrobatr Portable Document Format (PDF) at *http://spacescience.nasa.gov/pubs/Mars01EIS/ms01webpage.html* on the Internet.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Mark R. Dahl, 202–358-1544.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DEIS may also be examined at the following NASA locations by contacting the pertinent Freedom of Information Act Office:

1. NASA, Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA 94035 (650–604–4191).
2. NASA, Dryden Flight Research Center, Edwards, CA 93523 (661–258–3449).
3. NASA, Glenn Research Center, 21000 Brookpark Road, Cleveland, OH 44135 (216–433–2755).
4. NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD 20771 (301–286–6255).
5. NASA, Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX 77058 (281–483–8612).
6. NASA, Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA 23665 (757–864–2497).
7. NASA, Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL 35812 (256–544–1837).
8. NASA, Stennis Space Center, MS 39529 (228–688–2164).

On November 29, 1999, NASA published its Notice of Availability for the DEIS for the Mars Surveyor 2001 Mission (64 FR 66668), and distributed over 125 copies to potentially interested Federal, State and local agencies, organizations, and individuals. In addition, the DEIS was available in electronic format from a NASA server on the Internet. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency published its Notice of Availability on December 3, 1999 (64 FR 67897), initiating the 45-day review and comment period.

At the time of publication of the DEIS, NASA's Proposed Action was to continue preparations for and to implement the Mars Surveyor (MS 01) mission to Mars. The MS 01 mission was to consist of two separate launches, one containing an orbiter spacecraft and the other containing a lander/rover spacecraft. NASA proposed to launch the MS 01 orbiter spacecraft from Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), California, in March/April 2001 onboard a Delta II 7925 expendable launch vehicle, and the MS 01 lander/rover spacecraft from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS), Florida, in April 2001 onboard a Delta II 7425.

The purpose of and need for the action addressed in the DEIS was to further the scientific objectives of NASA's Mars Surveyor Program by continuing the exploration and characterization of the planet. The Mars Surveyor Program had consisted of the Mars Global Surveyor, already in orbit about Mars and conducting its scientific mission, and the Mars Surveyor 1998 (MS 98) orbiter and lander spacecraft. At the time of publication of the MS 01 DEIS, the MS 98 orbiter had failed to achieve orbit about Mars and was declared lost; and the MS 98 lander, the Mars Polar Lander, was on its final approach to entry into the atmosphere of Mars.

Specifically, at the time the DEIS was issued, the proposed MS 01 mission would have continued the global reconnaissance of Mars (via the MS 01 orbiter) and would have intensively studied a local area of the planet (via the MS 01 lander/rover). During its planned mapping phase of one Martian year (about two Earth years) the MS 01 orbiter would have conducted a detailed mineralogical analysis of the planet's surface and measured the radiation environment. The orbiter would have also acted as a communications relay for the lander/rover. During its 90-day primary mission the MS 01 lander/rover would have performed in situ science on the surface of Mars, exploring a potential landing site for future missions in the mid-latitude highlands of the planet by studying soil and atmospheric chemistry and radiation at the surface.

Two instruments on the MS 01 lander and two instruments on the rover would have carried minor radioactive sources. The rover would also have used three radioisotope heater units for thermal control. The total radioactive inventory onboard the MS 01 lander/rover would have been approximately 3.70×10^{12} Bq (100 Ci).

Alternatives to the Proposed Action that were evaluated in the DEIS consisted of the following:

(a) Orbiter and Lander-Only Mission Alternative: Launch the MS 01 orbiter as planned in the Proposed Action; eliminate the rover, and launch the lander-only spacecraft as planned in the Proposed Action; perform remote science data gathering from orbit and stationary in situ science by the lander.

(b) Orbiter-Only Mission Alternative: Launch the MS 01 orbiter as planned in the Proposed Action; eliminate the lander/rover launch; perform only remote science data gathering from orbit.

(c) No-Action Alternative: NASA would cease preparations for and not implement the MS 01 mission.

In the DEIS, the Delta II 7925 (with nine strap-on solid rocket motors called GEMs) was used as the basis for assessing environmental impacts from both launch sites. The environmental impacts of the Delta II 7425 (with only four GEMs) would be expected not to exceed those of the Delta II 7925.

The DEIS addressed the environmental impacts of normal launches of the two spacecraft comprising the Proposed Action. Such impacts would be associated principally with the exhaust emissions from each of the Delta II launch vehicles. These effects would include short-term impacts on noise levels, air quality within the exhaust cloud at and near the launch pads, and the potential for acidic deposition on the vegetation, wetlands, and surface water bodies at and near each launch complex, particularly if a rain storm occurred. Some short-term ozone degradation would occur along the flight paths as the launch vehicles pass through the stratosphere and deposits ozone-depleting chemicals from the solid rocket motors.

The DEIS evaluated a variety of non-radiological environmental impacts that might arise from accidents that could occur during preparation for and launch

of the MS 01 spacecraft at CCAFS and VAFB. The potential for off-site consequences would be limited primarily to a liquid propellant spill during fueling operations of the Delta II second stage and a launch failure at or near the launch pad. A launch vehicle failure on or near the launch area during the first few seconds of flight could result in the release of the propellants (solid and liquid) onboard the Delta II, the upper stage, and the spacecraft. The resulting emissions would resemble those resulting from a normal launch. Liquid propellants would largely burn with some unburned propellant dispersed in the atmosphere. Some unburned solid and liquid propellants could enter surface water bodies and the ocean. Falling debris would be expected to land on or near the launch pad, resulting in secondary ground-level explosions and localized fires.

For both normal launches and non-radiological environmental impacts arising from an accident, there would be no impacts on cultural resources or floodplains. No other non-radiological environmental impacts of concern have been identified. The launch of Delta II vehicles from CCAFS are covered by existing U.S. Air Force (USAF) Environmental Assessments and FONSIs. There have been no subsequent substantial changes to the Delta II launch vehicle that are relevant to environmental concerns. In addition, there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns that bear on the launch of the Delta II class vehicle.

The DEIS also addressed a concern associated with launch of the MS 01 lander/rover spacecraft involving potential launch accidents that could result in release of some of the radioactive material onboard the lander/rover spacecraft. NASA's cooperating agency, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), performed a radiological risk assessment of potential accidents for the MS 01 lander/rover. The DOE's risk assessment for the MS 01 lander/rover indicated that the expected impacts of released radioactive material on or near the launch area, and on a global basis, would be small.

The 45-day public comment period on the DEIS closed on January 17, 2000. A total of six comment letters were received: two from Federal agencies, three from State agencies, and one from a local agency. The comments addressed the following issues: NASA's compliance with the Endangered Species Act at the VAFB launch site; NASA's use of Best Management Practices; and questions regarding the methodologies used to estimate radiological consequences. These comments provided no new information or analyses that indicated a need to change the DEIS risk assessment of impacts presented in the DEIS.

Following the loss of the Mars Polar Lander, NASA instituted comprehensive reviews by high-level panels of experts not just of the loss of this spacecraft, but also of its overall approach to Mars exploration. These reviews resulted in a number of reports that have been publicly released. NASA is responding to these reports and recommendations, and is developing a broad restructuring of its approach to Mars exploration. Recommendations were also made that would directly affect implementation of the MS 01 mission. Specifically, it was recommended that launch of the MS 01 lander/rover spacecraft mission component be delayed to a future date yet to be determined, and that the orbiter spacecraft be launched in 2001 as originally proposed in the DEIS for the MS 01 Mission with the exception that the launch take place from CCAFS instead of VAFB. In March 2000, NASA adopted these recommendations regarding the Mars Surveyor 2001 mission.

The assessment of non-radiological environmental impacts in the DEIS was prepared on the basis of the larger Delta II 7925 vehicle at both launch sites. Therefore, the assessment of impacts both for a normal launch of the MS 01 lander/rover from CCAFS and for potential launch accidents that do not involve release of radioactive material is directly applicable to launch of the MS 01 orbiter from CCAFS and provides a conservative upper bound on those impacts. Furthermore, since the MS 01 orbiter does not utilize radioactive material, the risk assessment of potential radiological consequences for a launch accident involving the MS 01 lander/rover at CCAFS does not apply. Finally, the question submitted during the public comment period regarding compliance with the Endangered Species Act at VAFB does not pertain to the proposed MS 01 orbiter launch from CCAFS. Thus, given that the proposed reconfiguration of the Mars Surveyor 2001 mission to an orbiter-only launch from CCAFS does not entail any new or substantial changes to the potential environmental impacts evaluated in the DEIS, NASA has concluded that the DEIS adequately and accurately reflects the environmental impacts of the launch of a MS 01 orbiter spacecraft from CCAFS using a Delta II 7925 launch vehicle.

On the basis of the DEIS and USAF NEPA documentation on the Delta II class of launch vehicles, NASA has determined that the preparations for and launch and operation of an MS 01 orbiter-only mission would not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Should NASA decide to launch the MS 01 lander/rover to Mars at some future date, additional environmental documentation will be prepared.

Therefore, NASA has made a finding of no significant impact and has determined that issuance of a Final Environmental Impact Statement is not appropriate. NASA will take no final action prior to the expiration of the 30-day comment period.

Edward J. Weiler,

Associate Administrator for Space Science.

[FR Doc. 00–30225 Filed 11–27–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510–01–P

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

National Historical Publications and Records Commission; Programs Subject to Title IX

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of NHPRC programs covered by 36 CFR Part 1211 (Title IX).

SUMMARY: This notice describes the types of financial assistance that are provided by National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) that are covered by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended ("Title IX"). Title IX prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of sex in education programs or activities.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: NHPRC, Nancy Copp, at 202–501–5603, email address, *nancy.copp@arch1.nara.gov.*, fax number 202–501–5601.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NHPRC provides grants for projects that focus on documentary publications, records projects and other educational programs. The emphasis is placed primarily on the dissemination, accessibility and preservation of historical records bearing on U.S. history and also to further an understanding and appreciation of U.S. history. The program is carried in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) as 89.003, National Historical Publications and Records Grants.

The final common rule for the enforcement of Title IX was published in the **Federal Register** by 21 Federal

agencies, including NARA, on August 30, 2000 (65 FR 52857–52895). NARA's portion of the final rule will be codified at 36 CFR Part 1211. Subpart F of the Title IX common rule requires each Federal agency that awards Federal financial assistance to publish a notice of the federal financial assistance covered by the Title IX regulations within 60 days after the effective date of the final rule. This notice fulfills that requirement for NARA. Failure to list a type of federal assistance in this notice does not mean, if Title IX is otherwise applicable, that a program or activity is not covered by Title IX.

Recipients of federal financial assistance from NARA are subject to Title IX , but Title IX's anti-discrimination prohibitions are limited to the educational components of the recipient's program or activity, if any. The following types of NHPRC grants may involve educational activities that are covered under 36 CFR part 1211:

1. Educational Programs and Fellowships. NHPRC provides fellowships in Archival Administration (9–10 month training experience in archival management), fellowships in Advanced Historical Documentary Editing, and the Institute for the editing of Historical Documents.

2. Records Grants. These grants ensure that records documenting the American Experience are saved and made available for public use.

3. Electronic Records Grants. These grants seek ways to ensure that records created today will be useable on tomorrow's technology.

4. State Boards Grants. These grants provide support for advisory bodies for historical records planning and for many projects carried out within the states to strengthen the Nation's archival infrasturcture.

5. Publication Grants. These grants provide support for the publication of documentary editions that explore the lives and actions of important figures and/or to bring to light major themes of U.S. history.

Dated: November 20, 2000.

John W. Carlin,

Archivist of the United States.

[FR Doc. 00–30178 Filed 11–27–00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7515–01–U

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

Meetings of Humanities Panel

AGENCY: The National Endowment for the Humanities.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92–463, as amended), notice is hereby given that the following meetings of the Humanities Panel will be held at the Old Post Office, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20506.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura S. Nelson, Advisory Committee Management Officer, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, DC 20506; telephone (202) 606–8322. Hearing-impaired individuals are advised that information on this matter may be obtained by contacting the Endowment's TDD terminal on (202) 606–8282.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed meetings are for the purpose of panel review, discussion, evaluation and recommendation on applications for financial assistance under the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended, including discussion of information given in confidence to the agency by the grant applicants. Because the proposed meetings will consider information that is likely to disclose trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential and/or information of a personal nature the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, pursuant to authority granted me by the Chairman's Delegation of Authority to Close Advisory Committee meetings, dated July 29, 1993, I have determined that these meetings will be closed to the public pursuant to subsections (c)(4), and (6) of section 552b of Title 5, United States Code.

1. *Date:* December 5, 2000.
Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Room: 415.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Library & Archival Preservation and Access/Reference Materials, submitted to the Division of Preservation and Access at the July 1, 2000 deadline.

2. *Date:* December 6, 2000.
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Room: 430.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Schools for a New Millennium, submitted to the Division of Education Programs at the October 1, 2000 deadline.

3. *Date:* December 7, 2000.
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 315.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Collaborative Research in Western Hemisphere, submitted to the Division of Research Programs at the September 1, 2000 deadline.

4. *Date:* December 8, 2000.
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 430.
Program: This meeting will review applications for National Education Projects, submitted to the Division of Education Programs at the October 15, 2000 deadline.

5. *Date:* December 8, 2000.
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 415.
Program: This meeting will review applications for National Heritage Preservation Program, submitted to the Division of Preservation and Access at the July 1, 2000 deadline.

6. *Date:* December 8, 2000.
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 315.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Collaborative Research in Long-Term Projects I, submitted to the Division of Research Programs at the September 1, 2000 deadline.

7. *Date:* December 11, 2000.
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 315.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Collaborative Research in Long-Term Projects II, submitted to the Division of Research Programs at the September 1, 2000 deadline.

8. *Date:* December 11, 2000.
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 430.
Program: This meeting will review applications for National Education Projects, submitted to the Division of Education Programs at the October 15, 2000 deadline.

9. *Date:* December 11, 2000.
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Room: 714.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Humanities Projects in Media, submitted to the Division of Public Programs at the November 1, 2000 deadline.

10. *Date:* December 11–12, 2000.
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Room: 426.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Humanities Projects in Museum and Historical Organizations, submitted to the Division of Public Programs at the November 1, 2000 deadline.

11. *Date:* December 12, 2000.
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 415.
Program: This meeting will review applications for United States Newspaper Program, submitted to the Division of Preservation and Access at the July 1, 2000 deadline.

12. *Date:* December 13, 2000.
Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Room: 430.
Program: This meeting will review applications for Schools for a New