

educational programs of State-operated institutions for neglected or delinquent (N or D) children, community day programs for N or D children, and adult correctional institutions and (2) the October caseload of N or D children in local institutions.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Information Administration

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: The Energy Information Administration (EIA) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed changes and extensions to Forms EIA-851, "Domestic Uranium Mining Production Report," and EIA-858, "Uranium Industry Annual Survey," for the collection of 1997 data. The Form EIA-254, "Annual Report on Status of Reactor Construction," will be discontinued.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted within 60 days of the publication of this notice. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below of your intention to do so as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to Charles Johnson, Energy Information Administration, EI-531, Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585, (phone number (202) 426-1178; e-mail address CJOHNSON@EIA.DOE.GOV, and FAX number (202) 426-1280).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Charles Johnson at the address listed above.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

- I. Background
- II. Current Actions
- III. Request for Comments

I. Background

In order to fulfill its responsibilities under the Federal Energy Administration Act of 1974 (Pub. L. No. 93-275) and the Department of Energy Organization Act (Pub. L. 95-91), the Energy Information Administration is obliged to carry out a central, comprehensive, and unified energy data and information program. As part of this program, EIA collects, evaluates,

assembles, analyzes, and disseminates data and information related to energy resource reserves, production, demand, and technology, and related economic and statistical information relevant to the adequacy of energy resources to meet demands in the near and longer term future for the Nation's economic and social needs.

The Energy Information Administration, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden (required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13)), conducts a presurvey consultation program to provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing reporting forms. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden is minimized, reporting forms are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Also, EIA will later seek approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for the collections under Section 3507(h) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, Title 44, U.S.C. Chapter 35).

The Form EIA-254 (discontinued with this notice) collects data on nuclear power plants planned or under construction, including plant ownership, design capacity, status, cost, and construction schedules and milestone dates.

The Form EIA-851 collects data on uranium production at conventional mills and nonconventional plants (byproduct recovery and in-situ leach plants).

The Form EIA-858 collects data on uranium raw materials activities (Schedule A) and uranium marketing (Schedule B).

Data collected on these forms provide a comprehensive statistical characterization of the domestic nuclear industry in these areas: uranium reserves, potential future requirements for uranium production and enrichment facilities, uranium concentrate production, status of industry's annual activities, and information about industry plans and commitments.

Published data from these surveys are used by Congress, Federal and State agencies, the uranium and electric-utility industries, and the general public. Published data appear in the EIA publications, "Nuclear Power Generation and Fuel Cycle Report," "Uranium Industry Annual," and the "Annual Energy Review."

II. Current Actions

The EIA-254 will be discontinued for 1997.

There are no changes to the data elements collected on the Form EIA-851; however, a 3-year extension of the approved OMB expiration date (12/31/97) is requested.

The only change to the Form EIA-858 (Schedule A and Schedule B) is the elimination of the certification block on the cover sheet. A request to extend the approval expiration date (12/31/97) for 3 years will also be submitted to OMB.

III. Request for Comments

Prospective respondents and other interested parties should comment on the actions discussed in item II. The following guidelines are provided to assist in the preparation of responses. Please indicate to which form(s) your comments apply.

General Issues

A. Is the proposed collection of information necessary, taking into account its accuracy, adequacy, and reliability, and the agency's ability to process the information it collects in a useful and timely fashion.

B. What enhancements can EIA make to the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected?

As a Potential Respondent

A. Are the instructions and definitions clear and sufficient? If not, which instructions require clarification?

B. Can data be submitted in accordance with the due date specified in the instructions?

C. Public reporting burden for these collections are estimated to average: Form EIA-851, 3 hours; and Form EIA-858, 25 hours. Burden includes the total time, effort, or financial resources expended to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide the information including: (1) Reviewing instructions; (2) developing, acquiring, installing, and utilizing technology and systems for the purposes of collecting, validating, verifying, processing, maintaining, disclosing and providing information; (3) adjusting the existing ways to comply with any previously applicable instructions and requirements; (4) training personnel to respond to a collection of information; (5) searching data sources; (6) completing and reviewing the collection of information; and (7) transmitting, or otherwise disclosing the information.

Please comment on (1) the accuracy of our estimate and (2) how the agency could minimize the burden of the collection of information, including the use of automated collection techniques

or other forms of information technology.

D. What are the estimated (1) Total dollar amount annualized for capital and start-up costs, and (2) recurring annual dollar amount of operation, maintenance, and purchase of service costs associated with this data collection? The estimates should take into account the costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services made as part of customary and usual business practices, or the cost of any burden hours for completing the form. EIA estimates that there are no additional costs other than those that the respondent incurs in keeping the information for its own uses.

E. Do you know of any other Federal, State, or local agency that collects similar data? If you do, specify the agency, the data element(s), and the methods of collection.

As a Potential User

A. Can you use data at the levels of detail indicated on the Form EIA-851 and EIA-858?

B. For what purpose would you use the data? Be specific.

C. Are there alternate sources of data and do you use them? If so, what are their deficiencies and/or strengths?

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of the form. They also will become a matter of public record.

Statutory Authority: Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13).

Issued in Washington, DC, February 12, 1997.

Lynda T. Carlson,

*Director, Office of Statistical Standards,
Energy Information Administration.*

[FR Doc. 97-4017 Filed 2-18-97; 8:45 am]

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Agency Information Collection Under Review by the Office of Management and Budget

AGENCY: Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy.
ACTION: Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request.

SUMMARY: The Energy Information Administration (EIA) has submitted the "Residential Energy Consumption Survey" (RECS) (Forms EIA-457A/G) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction

Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35). Notice of this submission was published in the Federal Register on January 21, 1997 (62 FR 3031). This notice supplements the earlier notice. Unless additional funding is made available, it will be necessary to delete the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) questions (questions K-1 through K-3). The target sample will also be reduced from 5,800 cases to 5,000. If necessary, this decrease in the target sample will reduce the annual burden by 290 hours from 2,005 to 1,715.

DATES: Comments must be filed on or before February 20, 1997. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments but find it difficult to do so within the time allowed by this notice, you should advise the OMB Desk Officer listed below of your intention to do so as soon as possible. The Desk Officer may be telephoned at (202) 395-3084. (Also, please notify the EIA contact listed below.)

ADDRESSES: Address comments to the Department of Energy Desk Officer, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, 726 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20503. (Comments should also be addressed to the Office of Statistical Standards at the address below.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Jay Casselberry, Office of Statistical Standards, (EI-70), Forrestal Building, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, DC 20585. Mr. Casselberry may be telephoned at (202) 426-1116, FAX (202) 426-1081, or e-mail at jccasselb@eia.doe.gov.

Statutory Authority: Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. No. 104-13).

Issued in Washington, DC February 12, 1997.

Lynda T. Carlson,

*Director, Office of Statistical Standards,
Energy Information Administration.*

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Office of Energy Research

Energy Research Financial Assistance Program Notice 97-10; Microbial Genome Program

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Health and Environmental Research (OHER) of the Office of Energy Research, U.S.

Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving applications for grants in support of the Microbial Genome Program (MGP). The MGP focus is on developing and using high-throughput microbial genome sequencing that will provide functional genomic sequence and mapping information on microorganisms: with environmental or energy relevance; of phylogenetic significance; and of potential commercial importance and application. Bioinformatics tools relating to complete genomic sequences are also of importance to the MGP.

DATES: Preapplications referencing Program Notice 97-10 should be received by March 24, 1997. Formal applications in response to this notice should be received by 4:30 p.m., E.D.T., June 9, 1997, to be accepted for merit review and funding in early FY 1998.

ADDRESSES: Preapplications referencing Program Notice 97-10 should be sent to Dr. Marvin E. Frazier, Office of Health and Environmental Research, ER-72, Office of Energy Research, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290; e-mail is acceptable for submitting preapplications using the following address:

lana.ahalt@oer.doe.gov. Formal applications referencing Program Notice 97-10 should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Research, Grants and Contracts Division, ER-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, ATTN: Program Notice 97-10. This address must be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail or any commercial mail delivery service, or when hand-carried by the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Marvin E. Frazier, ER-72, Office of Health and Environmental Research, Office of Energy Research, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, telephone: (301) 903-5468, e-mail: lana.ahalt@oer.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Molecular biological research on industrially important microorganisms and on microorganisms that live in extreme environments (including the deep subsurface, geothermal environments, hypersaline environments, frozen environments, and toxic waste sites) is a developing area of great scientific promise that will impact many DOE missions, other federal agency missions, and U.S. industry. The Microbial Genome Program supports key DOE business areas by providing microbial