

with specific criteria for recognition that was requested by the Secretary when the Secretary granted renewed recognition to the agency.)

1. American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar
2. Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., Accreditation Commission
3. Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications
4. American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation
5. American Physical Therapy Association, Committee on Accreditation
6. Commission on Opticianry Accreditation
7. National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Reproductive Health, Council on Accreditation
8. North Carolina Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Schools

State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education

Interim Report

1. Kansas State Department of Education

Interim Report

1. Kansas State Department of Education

State Agencies Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education

Interim Report

1. New York State Board of Regents, Nursing Education

Federal Agency Seeking Degree-Granting Authority

In accordance with the Federal policy governing the granting of academic degrees by Federal agencies (approved by a letter from the Director, Bureau of the Budget, to the Secretary, Health, Education, and Welfare, dated December 23, 1954), the Secretary is required to establish a review committee to advise the Secretary concerning any legislation that may be proposed that would authorize the granting of degrees by a Federal agency. The review committee forwards its recommendation concerning a Federal agency's proposed degree-granting authority to the Secretary, who then forwards the committee's recommendation and the Secretary's recommendation to the Office of Management and Budget for review and transmittal to the Congress. The Secretary uses the Advisory Committee as the review committee required for this purpose. Accordingly,

the Advisory Committee will review the following institution at this meeting:

Proposed Associate Degree-Granting Authority

1. Defense Language Institute (Accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges)

Who Can Make Third-Party Oral Presentations at This Meeting?

We invite you to make a third-party oral presentation before the National Advisory Committee concerning the recognition of any agency published in this notice.

How Do I Request To Make an Oral Presentation?

You must submit a written request to make an oral presentation concerning an agency listed in this notice to the contact person by November 1, 1999. Your request should include:

- The names of all persons seeking an appearance,
- The organization they represent, and
- A brief summary of the principal points to be made during the oral presentation.

This notice is not a call for third-party written comments. However, if you wish to provide the Advisory Committee with a brief document (no more than 6 pages maximum) illustrating the main points of your oral testimony, please enclose one original and 25 copies of the document with your written request to make an oral presentation. Please do not distribute written materials at the meeting or send materials directly to Committee members.

Materials submitted by the deadline and in accordance with these instructions become part of the official record and are considered by the Committee in its deliberations. Department staff will not distribute documents submitted after the November 1, 1999, deadline to the Advisory Committee.

If I Cannot Attend the Meeting, Can I Submit Written Comments Regarding an Accrediting Agency in Lieu of Making an Oral Presentation?

This notice requests third-party oral testimony, not written comment. A request for written comments on agencies that are being reviewed during this meeting was published in the **Federal Register** on June 9, 1999. The Advisory Committee will receive and consider only written comments submitted by the deadlines specified in that **Federal Register** notice.

How Do I Request To Present Comments Regarding General Issues Rather Than Specific Accrediting Agencies?

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Committee, at its discretion, may invite attendees to address the Committee briefly on issues pertaining to the functions of the Committee, which are listed earlier in this notice. If you are interested in making such comments, you should inform Ms. LeBold before or during the meeting.

How May I Obtain Access to the Records of the Meeting?

We will record the meeting and make a transcript available for public inspection at the US Department of Education, ROB-3, Room 3012, 7th and D Streets, SW, Washington, DC, telephone (202) 260-3636, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. It is preferred that an appointment be made in advance of such inspection.

Authority: 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2.

Greg Woods,

Chief Operating Officer, Student Financial Assistance.

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BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Regional Educational Laboratory Program

AGENCY: Office of Educational Research and Improvement, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of public meetings.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary announces three public meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss issues relating to the FY 2000 Regional Educational Laboratory competition.

DATES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for meeting dates.

ADDRESSES: See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for meeting locations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Rinehart, US Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, room 506f, Washington, DC 20202-5644. Telephone (202) 219-2193. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Public Meetings

The dates, times, and locations of the meetings are as follows:

1. October 6, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m., Tampa Convention Center, 333 S. Franklin Street, Tampa, FL.

2. November 8, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m., Salt Palace Convention Center, 100 South West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT.

3. December 15, 1999, 8:30 a.m. to 10:20 a.m., Sheraton Chicago Hotel, 301 East North Water Street, Chicago, IL.

Note: Please check with the Improving America's Schools (IAS) Conference registration desk for exact meeting room locations.

Assistance to Individuals With Disabilities at the Public Meetings

The meeting sites are accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although we will attempt to meet a request we receive after that date, we may not be able to make available the requested auxiliary aid or service because of insufficient time to arrange it.

Additional Information

The Regional Educational Laboratories are funded by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement to conduct research, development, and technical assistance for educational reform. In the year 2000, the ten contracts for Regional Educational Laboratories will be re-competed. A series of public meetings will be held at the IAS Conferences this fall. The meetings will provide an opportunity for attendees to offer input on the issues and priorities for the next competition. Federal program staff will meet with attendees to discuss what services a regional laboratory should offer its region and what priorities the labs should address to support educational reform at state and local levels. More specifically, attendees will be invited to provide feedback on a series of issues relating to the scope of work to be performed under the new laboratory contracts.

Interested parties may attend the public meeting without paying the registration fee for the conference; however, they may not attend other sessions at the conference without registering. For more information about the conferences, please visit the IAS

Conference website at <http://www.ncbe.gwu.edu/iasconferences>.

Proceedings from the meetings will be made available on the Department's website. See the program website (http://www.ed.gov/prog_info/Labs/) for additional information about the laboratory competition.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites: <http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm> <http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, D.C. area, at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 6041(h).

Dated: September 27, 1999.

C. Kent McGuire,

Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement.

[FR Doc. 99-25409 Filed 9-29-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**Notice of Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement for Transfer of the Department of Energy Grand Junction Office to Non-DOE Ownership**

AGENCY: Grand Junction Office, Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of floodplain and wetlands involvement for transfer of the Grand Junction Office to Non-DOE ownership.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) proposes to transfer the 56.4 acres and approximately 35 structures that comprise the DOE Grand Junction Office (GJO) to non-DOE ownership. A portion of the facility is located in the 100-year floodplain of the Gunnison River and there are several jurisdictional wetlands located within the property boundary. The facility is located in Mesa County, Colorado. In accordance with 10 CFR part 1022, DOE will prepare a

floodplains and wetlands assessment and will perform this proposed action in a manner that will avoid or minimize potential harm to or within the affected floodplain and wetlands. The assessment will be conducted in conjunction with an Environmental Assessment (EA) that analyzes the potential environmental affects of the transfer of the property.

DATES: Written comments are due to the address below no later than October 15, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be addressed to Mary Ann Rondinella, U.S. Department of Energy—Grand Junction Office, 2597 B ¾ Road, Grand Junction, Colorado 81503; or transmitted electronically by E-mail via Internet to: mrondinella@doegjpo.com; or by facsimile to (970)248-6023.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS PROPOSED ACTION CONTACT: Donna Bergman-Tabbert, Manager, U.S. Department of Energy-Grand Junction Office 2597 B ¾ Road, Grand Junction, Colorado 81503, Telephone 1-970-248-6001 or 1-800-399-5618, Email via Internet to dbergman-tabbert@doegjpo.com, Facsimile to 1-970-248-6023.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON GENERAL DOE FLOODPLAIN/WETLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW REQUIREMENTS, CONTACT: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20585, (202) 586-4600 or (800) 472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under E.O. 11988—Floodplain Management, E.O. 11990—Protection of Wetlands, and 10 CFR part 1022—Compliance with Floodplain/Wetlands Environmental Review Requirements, notice is given that the DOE intends to transfer the 56.4 acres that comprise the GJO to non-DOE ownership. The facility includes offices, warehouses, computer and telecommunications centers, classrooms, a cafeteria, an occupational health facility, hazardous and radioactive waste storage facilities, and an analytical laboratory. DOE's primary missions at Grand Junction are environmental restoration, environmental science, technology development, long-term stewardship of inactive waste sites, and management of leases on government lands for uranium exploration and mining. The missions of the office have grown smaller over the past several years. As a result, DOE has determined that it no longer needs to own the GJO facility to perform its assigned missions. Upon completion of cleanup of residual radioactive