

Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and by House Appropriations language that established the Smaller Learning Communities grant program [H.R. 3424, 106th Congress (Appropriations 2000)].

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO\_IMG\_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at via her internet address Kathy\_Axt@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-21040 Filed 8-17-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer invites comments on the submission for OMB review as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 18, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Wai-Sinn Chan, Acting Desk Officer, Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget, 725 17th Street, N.W., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Wai-Sinn\_L.\_Chan@omb.eop.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public

participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Dated: August 14, 2000.

**John Tressler,**

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

### Office of the Undersecretary

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Field Focused Studies.

*Frequency:* Semi-Annually.

*Affected Public:* State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 2

Burden Hours: 324

*Abstract:* This study is being conducted as part of the national evaluation of the Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program. The study will examine the link among three components—school reform processes, instruction and other educational activities, and student achievement.

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Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Jacqueline Montague at (202) 708-5359 or via her internet address Jackie\_Montague@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal

Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-21041 Filed 8-17-00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[Docket No. EA-98-G]

### Application To Amend Electricity Export Authorization; Western Systems Power Pool

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy, DOE.

**ACTION:** Notice of application.

**SUMMARY:** The Western Systems Power Pool ("WSPP") has filed an application on behalf of a member to amend its electricity export authorization issued September 5, 1996, in Order EA-98-C. The application requests that one new member of WSPP be authorized to export electricity to Canada. The application also requests expedited consideration.

**DATES:** Comments, protests or requests to intervene must be submitted on or before September 5, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments, protests or requests to intervene should be addressed as follows: Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex (FE-27), Office of Coal & Power, Office of Fossil Energy, Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585 (FAX 202-287-5736).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steven Mintz (Program Office) 202-586-9506 or Michael Skinker (Program Attorney) 202-586-6667.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Exports of electricity from the United States to a foreign country are regulated and require authorization under section 202(e) of the Federal Power Act (FPA) (16 U.S.C. Sec. 824a(e)).

On September 5, 1996, in Docket EA-98-C, the Office of Fossil Energy (FE) of the Department of Energy (DOE) authorized 42 members of the WSPP to export electric energy to Canada. On March 24, 1997, and again on May 5, 1997, FE amended the authorization issued to WSPP to add additional members. The facilities utilized for these exports are the international transmission facilities owned and operated by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), also a WSPP member. The facilities consist of two 500-kV transmission lines at Blaine, Washington, and one 230-kV transmission line at Nelway, British Columbia, that interconnect with facilities of BC Hydro, and one 230-kV

line, also at Nelway, connecting to West Kootenay Power, Limited. The construction and operation of these international transmission facilities was previously authorized by Presidential Permits PP-10, PP-46, and PP-36, respectively.

On August 3, 2000, WSPP submitted an application to amend the export authorization by adding one new member company to the list of authorized electricity exporters. The new member is Candela Energy Corporation (Candela). In addition, WSPP requests expedited treatment of the application to allow Candela to begin transacting business under the authorization as quickly as possible.

**Procedural Matters:** Any persons desiring to become a party to this proceeding or to be heard by filing comments or protests to this application should file a petition to intervene, comment or protest at the address provided above in accordance with Secs. 385.211 or 385.214 of the FERC's Rules of Practice and Procedures (18 CFR 385.211, 385.214). Fifteen copies of such petitions and protests should be filed with the DOE on or before the date listed above. Additional copies are to be filed directly with: Michael E. Small, Esq., Wright & Talisman, P.C., 1200 G Street, Suite 600, Washington, D.C. 20005.

DOE has granted WSPP's request for expedited treatment of its application and has reduced the normal 30-day public comment period to 15 days.

A final decision will be made on this application after the environmental impacts have been evaluated pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and a determination is made by the DOE that the proposed action will not adversely impact on the reliability of the U.S. electric power supply system.

Copies of this application will be made available, upon request, for public inspection and copying at the address provided above.

Issued in Washington, DC, on August 14, 2000.

**Anthony J. Como,**

*Deputy Director, Electric Power Regulation, Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex, Office of Coal & Power Systems, Office of Fossil Energy.*

[FR Doc. 00-21122 Filed 8-17-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 00-18; Microbial Genome Program

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice inviting grant applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving applications for grants in support of the Microbial Genome Program (MGP), focused on microbes of interest to the DOE, *e.g.* those involved in environmental processes, including waste remediation, carbon management, energy production and biotechnology. This announcement is focused on (1) whole genome functional analyses of genomic information from microorganisms; (2) bioinformatics tools for microbial genome annotation; (3) characterization of microbial genomic plasticity, *e.g.* lateral gene transfers and other forms of genomic information transfer; (4) novel technologies for comparative microbial genome sequencing that exploit previously sequenced microbial genomes; and (5) technologies to assess consortia and environmental diversity of hard-to-culture microbes. This announcement represents a significant departure from past MGP announcements in that the DOE will not solicit applications to continue high throughput sequencing of microbial genomes. Rather, this is a shift in emphasis to exploiting already sequenced genomes to address DOE mission needs.

**DATES:** Preapplications referencing Program Notice 00-18 should be received by October 2, 2000.

Formal applications in response to this notice should be received by 4:30 p.m., e.s.t., December 14, 2000, to be accepted for merit review and funding in FY 2001.

**ADDRESSES:** Preapplications referencing Program Notice 00-18 should be sent to Dr. Daniel W. Drell, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC-72, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290; e-mail is acceptable for submitting preapplications using the following address:

joanne.corcoran@science.doe.gov.

Formal applications referencing Program Notice 00-18, should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and

Contracts Division, SC-64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, ATTN: Program Notice 00-18. 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. Daniel W. Drell, SC-72, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874-1290, telephone: (301) 903-4742, e-mail: daniel.drell@science.doe.gov. The full text of Program Notice 00-18 is available via the Internet using the following web site address: <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Microbial Genome Program (MGP) supports key DOE business areas by providing microbial DNA sequence information that will further the understanding and application of microbiology relating to energy production, chemical and materials production, environmental carbon management, and environmental cleanup. The elucidation of microbial genome sequences is a natural outgrowth of past and current Biological and Environmental Research (BER) Programs, including DNA sequencing from the Human Genome Program, structural biology studies utilizing BER-supported facilities and synchrotrons located at DOE laboratories, and molecular microbiological research supported by BER environmental programs. The MGP benefits directly from capabilities at DOE national laboratories, DOE and National Institutes of Health Human Genome Centers, the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the capabilities of universities and non-profits. The MGP represents a considerable interdisciplinary effort and will contribute to and draw from a wide variety of public and private programs. Over the last 5 years, sequencing of microorganisms that live in extreme environments (including the deep subsurface, geothermal environments, hypersaline environments, high-radiation environments, and toxic waste sites) has provided a considerable information base for scientific research related not only to DOE missions but also to other federal agency missions, and U.S. industry. Applications are now being sought in five complementary areas: whole-genome functional analyses, bioinformatics applied to