

ESTIMATED RESPONDENT BURDEN HOURS AND COSTS

Form	Respondent sample	Number of respondents	Average time to complete (minimum, maximum) in minutes	Frequency	Total burden (hours)
Stakeholder Surveys .....	The public .....	300	10	Twice a year .....	100

*Respondent's Obligation:* Voluntary. *Status of the proposed information collection:* Pending OMB approval.

**Authority:** Title 13 U.S.C. Section 9(a), and Title 12, U.S.C., 1701z-1 *et seq.*

Dated: August 21, 2012.

**Erika Poethig,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research.*

[FR Doc. 2012-21234 Filed 8-27-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4210-67-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Geological Survey**

[GX.12.CD00.B9510.00]

**Agency Information Collection: Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** United States Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of an extension of a currently approved information collection, 1028-0095.

**SUMMARY:** We (the U.S. Geological Survey) will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the information collection (IC) described below. To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and as part of our continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this IC. This collection is scheduled to expire on January 31, 2013.

**DATES:** You must submit comment on or before October 29, 2012.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments on this information collection to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive MS 807, Reston, VA 20192 (mail); 703-648-7199 (Fax); or *smbaloch@usgs.gov* (email). Please reference Information Collection 1028-0095 in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John E. Schefter, Chief Office of External Research, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 424, Reston, Virginia 20192 (mail) at (703) 648-6800 (Phone); or *schefter@usgs.gov* (email).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Title:** National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR) USGS Competitive Grant Program.

**OMB Control Number:** 1028-0095.

**Abstract:** The NIWR-USGS National Competitive Grant Program issues an annual call for proposals to support research on water problems and issues of a regional or interstate nature beyond those of concern only to a single state and which relate to specific program priorities identified jointly by the USGS and the state water resources research institutes authorized by the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended (42 U.S.C. 10301 *et seq.*). The program is conducted in conjunction with the State Water Resources Research Institutes. The NIWR cooperates with the USGS in establishing total programmatic direction, reporting on the activities of the Institutes, coordinating and facilitating regional research and information and technology transfer, and in operating the NIWR-USGS Student Internship Program. Any investigator at an accredited institution of higher learning in the United States is eligible to apply for a grant through a water research institute or center established under the provisions of the Act. Proposals involving substantial collaboration between the USGS and university scientists are encouraged. Proposals may be for projects of 1 to 3 years in duration and may request up to \$250,000 in federal funds. Successful applicants must match each dollar of the federal grant with one dollar from nonfederal sources. An annual progress and final technical report for all projects is required at the end of the project period. This program is authorized by the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)). No questions of a "sensitive" nature are asked. We intend to release the project abstracts and primary investigators for awarded/funded projects only.

**Frequency of Collection:** Annually.

**Affected Public:** Research investigators at accredited institutions of higher education.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary (necessary to receive benefits).

**Estimated Number and Description of Respondents:** We expect to receive approximately 65 applications and award 7 grants per year.

**Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Hour" Burden:** We estimate the public reporting burden to be 72 hours per response. This includes 60 hours per applicant to prepare and submit the application; and 12 hours (total) per grantee to complete the interim and final technical reports.

**Annual Burden Hours:** 3,984.

**Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping "Non-Hour Cost":** We have not identified any "non-hour cost" burdens associated with this collection of information.

**Public Disclosure Statement:** The PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*) provides that an agency may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Comments:** We are soliciting comments as to: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) how to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Please note that the comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.

Dated: August 22, 2012.

**John E. Scheffer,**

*Water Resources Research Act Program  
Coordinator.*

[FR Doc. 2012-21144 Filed 8-27-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4311-AM-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

#### Announcement of National Geospatial Advisory Committee Meeting

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC) will meet on September 18–19, 2012 at the American Institute of Architects Building, 1735 New York Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20006. The meeting will be held in the Gallery Room. The NGAC, which is composed of representatives from governmental, private sector, non-profit, and academic organizations, was established to advise the Federal Geographic Data Committee on management of Federal geospatial programs, the development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, and the implementation of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A–16. Topics to be addressed at the meeting include:

- Leadership Dialogue
- Geospatial Platform
- Geolocation Privacy
- FGDC Report
- COGO Report Card
- Subcommittee Reports

The meeting will include an opportunity for public comment on September 19. Comments may also be submitted to the NGAC in writing. Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting must register in advance. Please register by contacting Arista Maher at the U.S. Geological Survey (703-648-6283, [amaher@usgs.gov](mailto:amaher@usgs.gov)). Registrations are due by September 14, 2012. While the meeting will be open to the public, seating may be limited due to room capacity.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on September 18 and from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on September 19.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Mahoney, U.S. Geological Survey (206-220-4621).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Meetings of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee are open to the public. Additional information about the NGAC

and the meeting is available at [www.fgdc.gov/ngac](http://www.fgdc.gov/ngac).

Dated: August 22, 2012.

**Ken Shaffer,**

*Deputy Executive Director, Federal  
Geographic Data Committee.*

[FR Doc. 2012-21143 Filed 8-27-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

**[CACA-51625, LLCAD07000, L51010000,  
ER0000, LVRWB10B3800]**

#### Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision for San Diego Gas and Electric's East County Substation Project, San Diego County, CA

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announces the availability of the Record of Decision (ROD) for San Diego Gas and Electric's (SDG&E) East County (ECO) Substation Project, located in San Diego County, California. The Secretary of the Interior approved the ROD on August 21, 2012, which constitutes the final decision of the Department.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of the ROD have been sent to responsible Federal, State, and local government agencies and other interested stakeholders, and are available upon request from the Field Manager, BLM El Centro Field Office, 1661 S. 4th Street, El Centro, California 92243, and the BLM California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, California 92553, or via the Internet at the following Web site: <http://www.ca.blm.gov/elcentro>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** R. Brian Paul, Project Manager, telephone 760-337-4400; address BLM California Desert District Office, 22835 Calle San Juan de Los Lagos, Moreno Valley, California 92553-9046; email [catulewind@blm.gov](mailto:catulewind@blm.gov).

Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** SDG&E filed right-of-way (ROW) application CACA-51625 for the ECO Substation

Project. The ECO Substation Project will provide an interconnection hub for renewable generation along SDG&E's existing Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) 500-kilovolt (kV) transmission line. The project will consist of a 500/230/138 kV substation; a SWPL Loop-In (a short loop-in of the existing SWPL transmission line to the proposed ECO Substation); the rebuilt Boulevard Substation (an existing substation); and a 13.9-mile 138 kV transmission line connecting the new ECO Substation to the rebuilt Boulevard Substation, 0.8 mile of which is on public lands administered by the BLM (the remainder is located on private lands subject to the permitting authority of the California Public Utilities Commission). Through the ROD, the BLM approves the 0.8-mile portion of the 138 kV transmission line on BLM-administered public land, and makes no decision regarding those portions of the ECO Substation Project or other projects analyzed in the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) that are not located on BLM-managed lands.

The project site is located approximately 70 miles east of downtown San Diego, south of Interstate 8, east of the town of Jacumba and along Old Highway 80, in San Diego County, California, within Township 18 South, Ranges 8 East, Section(s) 02, 03, 10, and 11.

The BLM preferred alternative would allow the construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of the 0.8-mile underground segment of the project's 138 kV transmission line on BLM-managed lands, which is necessary for the construction of the ECO Substation Project. In addition to the ECO Substation Project, the Final EIS/EIR evaluated a ROW application by Tule Wind, LLC to construct the Tule Wind Project, as well as the Energia Sierra Juarez Project, and Gen-Tie, Campo, Manzanita wind energy projects. Although these project components were analyzed in the same EIS/EIR, only the 0.8-mile underground segment of the ECO Substation Project 138 kV transmission line and portions of the Tule Wind Project would be located on BLM-managed lands. The BLM issued a separate decision on Tule Wind, LLC's ROW application on December 20, 2011.

This agency preferred alternative was evaluated in the Final EIS/EIR. The Notice of Availability of the Final EIS/EIR for the ECO Substation Project was published in the **Federal Register** on October 14, 2011 (76 FR 381).

Because this decision is approved by the Secretary of the Interior, it is not