

depend, in part, on the constituency, interests, or industry sector the nominee seeks to represent, and where appropriate, shall include significant experience as a direct service provider to consumers.

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Community Bank Advisory Council Charter, in appointing members to the Advisory Council the Director shall seek to assemble experts in consumer protection, financial services, community development, fair lending and civil rights, and consumer financial products or services and representatives of community banks that primarily serve underserved communities, and representatives of communities that have been significantly impacted by higher-priced mortgage loans, and shall strive to have diversity in terms of points of view. Only current bank or thrift employees (CEOs, compliance officers, government relations officials, etc.) will be considered for membership. Membership is limited to employees of banks and thrifts with total assets of \$10 billion or less that are not affiliates of depository institutions or credit unions with total assets of more than \$10 billion.

Pursuant to section 5 of the Credit Union Advisory Council Charter, in appointing members to the Advisory Council the Director shall seek to assemble experts in consumer protection, financial services, community development, fair lending and civil rights, and consumer financial products or services and representatives of credit unions that primarily serve underserved communities, and representatives of communities that have been significantly impacted by higher-priced mortgage loans, and shall strive to have diversity in terms of points of view. Only current credit union employees (CEOs, compliance officers, government relations officials, etc.) will be considered for membership. Membership is limited to employees of credit unions with total assets of \$10 billion or less that are not affiliates of depository institutions or credit unions with total assets of more than \$10 billion.

The Bureau has a special interest in ensuring that women, minority groups, and individuals with disabilities are adequately represented on the Board and Councils, and therefore, encourages applications from qualified candidates from these groups. The Bureau also has a special interest in establishing a Board that is represented by a diversity of viewpoints and constituencies, and therefore encourages applications from qualified candidates who:

1. Represent the United States' geographic diversity; and
2. Represent the interests of special populations identified in the Dodd-Frank Act, including service members, older Americans, students, and traditionally underserved consumers and communities.

IV. Application Procedures

Any interested person may apply for membership on the Board or Advisory Council.

A complete application packet must include:

1. A recommendation letter from a third party describing the applicant's interests and qualifications to serve on the Board or Council;
2. A complete résumé or curriculum vitae for the applicant; and
3. A complete application.

To evaluate potential sources of conflicts of interest, the Bureau will ask potential candidates to provide information related to financial holdings and/or professional affiliations, and to allow the Bureau to perform a background check. The Bureau will not review applications and will not answer questions from internal or external parties regarding applications until the application period has closed.

The Bureau will not entertain applications of federally registered lobbyists and individuals who have been convicted of a felony for a position on the Board and Councils.

Only complete applications will be given consideration for review of membership on the Board and Councils.

Dated: January 9, 2015.

Christopher D'Angelo,

Chief of Staff, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.

[FR Doc. 2015-00565 Filed 1-15-15; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; State Personnel Development Grants (SPDG) Program

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

ACTION: Applications for New Awards; extension of the application period.

SUMMARY: On December 15, 2014, we published in the **Federal Register** a notice inviting applications for new awards under the SPDG competition. That notice established a January 29, 2015, deadline for the submission of applications, and a deadline of March 30, 2015, for intergovernmental review.

We are extending both deadlines by fifteen (15) days.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:
84.323A.

Dates:

Applications Available: December 15, 2014.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: February 13, 2015.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: April 14, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jennifer Coffey, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., Room 4097, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-2600. Telephone: (202) 245-6673 or by email: jennifer.coffey@ed.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On December 15, 2015, the Secretary invited applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2015 under the SPDG competition (79 FR 74071). The purpose of this program, authorized by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), is to assist State educational agencies (SEAs) in reforming and improving their systems for personnel preparation and professional development in early intervention, educational, and transition services in order to improve results for children with disabilities.

The notice inviting applications established a January 29, 2015, deadline for the submission of applications. To ensure that all interested parties are provided a minimum of 60 days to submit their applications, we are extending the application period for fifteen (15) days to February 13, 2015. Consequently, we are also extending the deadline for intergovernmental review to April 14, 2015. All other information in the December 15, 2014, notice, including the two absolute priorities, remains the same.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Electronic Access to This Document: 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 via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document

Format (PDF). To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Dated: January 12, 2015.

Michael K. Yudin,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 2015-00605 Filed 1-15-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Engineered High Energy Crop Programs Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, Southeastern United States

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability and public hearings.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) announces the availability of the Engineered High Energy Crop (EHEC) Programs Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (or Draft PEIS) (DOE/EIS-0481). DOE also announces one in-person public hearing to be held in Washington, DC, and two Web-based public hearings, to receive comments on the Draft PEIS. The Draft PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with DOE's Proposed Action to implement one or more programs to catalyze the development and demonstration of crops specifically engineered for increased energy production. A main component of the proposed programs would be providing financial assistance to conduct field trials to test the effectiveness of EHECs in the Southeastern United States, specifically in Alabama, Florida (excluding the Everglades/Southern Florida coastal plain ecoregion), Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

DATES: Comments on the Draft PEIS Notice of Availability (NOA) will be accepted until March 17, 2015. During the public comment period, DOE will host one in-person public hearing and two Web-based public hearings to receive comments on the Draft PEIS. Comments submitted during this public comment period will be considered in

preparation of a Final PEIS and used by DOE in its decision-making process for the Proposed Action. DOE will consider late comments to the extent practicable. DOE will conduct public hearings:

- February 17, 2015, from 5:00–7:00 p.m., at the Holiday Inn Washington Capitol, 550 C Street Southwest, Washington, DC 20024.
- February 24, 2015, from 2:00–4:00 p.m., Web-based.
- February 26, 2015, from 2:00–4:00 p.m., Web-based.

Information on how to register for the Web-based public hearings will be available on the DOE EHEC PEIS project Web site (See **ADDRESSES** section).

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the Draft PEIS may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- *EHEC Web site:* <http://engineerhighenergycropsPEIS.com>
- *Email:* comments@engineerhighenergycropsPEIS.com
- *Mail:* Dr. Jonathan Burbaum, Program Director, ARPA-E, U.S. Department of Energy, ATTN: EHEC PEIS, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Mailstop-950-8043, Washington, DC 20585. Note: Comments submitted by U.S. Postal Service may be delayed by mail screening.

This NOA, the EPA NOA, and the Draft PEIS will be posted on the DOE NEPA Web site at <http://energy.gov/nepa>. These documents, and additional materials relating to this Draft PEIS, will also be available on the EHEC PEIS project Web site at: <http://engineerhighenergycropsPEIS.com>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information on the PEIS, contact Dr. Jonathan Burbaum, Program Director, by one of the methods described in the **ADDRESSES** section, or by telephone at (202) 287-5453. For general information on the DOE NEPA process, contact Carol Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (GC-54), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20585, or telephone at (202) 586-4600, voicemail at (800) 472-2756, or email at askNEPA@hq.doe.gov. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audio tape, etc.) should contact (800) 877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EHEC PEIS (DOE/EIS-0481) is being prepared in accordance with NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) requirements, the Council on Environmental Quality's NEPA regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), and DOE's NEPA Implementing Procedures (10 CFR part 1021).

The Draft PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and alternatives to develop and implement one or more programs to catalyze the research, development, and demonstration of EHECs in the Southeastern United States. EHECs are agriculturally-viable photosynthetic species containing genetic material that has been intentionally introduced through biotechnology, interspecific hybridization, or other engineering processes (excluding processes that occur in nature without human intervention), specifically engineered to increase the amount of energy produced per acre (*e.g.*, improving the photosynthetic process), without increasing the amount of biomass. These approaches are referred to in this PEIS as approaches "independent of increasing the amount of biomass." A main component of the proposed EHEC Programs would be DOE or other Federal or state agencies providing financial assistance for confined field trials to evaluate the performance of EHECs that could facilitate the commercial development and deployment of biofuels. The field trials would demonstrate the EHEC's biological and economic viability and further DOE ARPA-E's mission. Confined field trials may range in size and could include development scale (up to 5 acres), pilot scale (up to 250 acres), or demonstration scale (up to 15,000 acres). The Draft PEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of these scaled alternatives, which reflect the range of reasonable alternatives.

Signed in Washington, DC, this 12th day of January, 2015.

Jonathan Burbaum,

Program Director, Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy.

[FR Doc. 2015-00601 Filed 1-15-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Agency Information Collection Extension

AGENCY: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable, Energy Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice and Request for OMB Review and Comment.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, a three-year