

(RFP) or a promise to issue an RFP or a notice inviting applications. This RFI does not commit the Department to contract for any supply or service whatsoever. Further, we are not seeking proposals and will not accept unsolicited proposals. The Department will not pay for any information or administrative costs that you may incur in responding to this RFI. Inclusion of or publishing of any submissions in the Clearinghouse does not necessarily equate endorsement from the U.S. Department of Education or from the Federal Government, nor is it a certification of the effectiveness of the suggestion.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

As part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the Department provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). This helps ensure that the public understands the Department's collection instructions, respondents provide the requested data in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the Department can properly assess the impact of collection requirements on respondents.

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approves the collection under the PRA and the corresponding information collection instrument displays a currently valid OMB control number. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to comply with, or is subject to penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information if the collection instrument does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

The Department requested and was granted an emergency paperwork clearance from OMB for the data collection associated with this RFI. The Department will publish 60- and 30-day **Federal Register** notices as required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection.

We estimate that 300 respondents will submit materials such as fact sheets, step-by-step guidance, and ready-to-implement resources in response to this RFI. We estimate that it will take each respondent one hour and 30 minutes to review instructions, gather submission materials, and submit the requested information. This will result in a total

burden of 300 responses and 450 hours to the public.

**Accessible Format:** On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc, or other accessible format.

**Electronic Access to This Document:** The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. You may access the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations at [www.govinfo.gov](http://www.govinfo.gov). 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 Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

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#### Ruth Ryder,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.*

#### Erin McHugh,

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Planning, Evaluation, and Policy Development.*

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*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Planning, Office of Postsecondary Education.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In this notice, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is forecasting the representative average unit costs of five residential energy sources for the year 2021 pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Act). The five sources are electricity,

natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, propane, and kerosene.

**DATES:** The representative average unit costs of energy contained in this notice will become effective April 16, 2021 and will remain in effect until further notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. John Cymbalsky, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Forrestal Building, Mail Station EE-5B, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-0121, (202) 287-1692, [ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov](mailto:ApplianceStandardsQuestions@ee.doe.gov).

Ms. Francine Pinto, Esq. U.S. Department of Energy, Office of General Counsel Forrestal Building, Mail Station GC-33, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-0103, (202) 586-7432, [Francine.Pinto@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Francine.Pinto@hq.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 323 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act requires that DOE prescribe test procedures for the measurement of the estimated annual operating costs or other measures of energy consumption for certain consumer products specified in the Act. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) These test procedures are found in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 430, subpart B.

Section 323(b)(3) of the Act requires that the estimated annual operating costs of a covered product be calculated from measurements of energy use in a representative average use cycle or period of use and from representative average unit costs of the energy needed to operate such product during such cycle. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(3)) The section further requires that DOE provide information to manufacturers regarding the representative average unit costs of energy. (42 U.S.C. 6293(b)(4)) This cost information should be used by manufacturers to meet their obligations under section 323(c) of the Act. Most notably, these costs are used to comply with Federal Trade Commission (FTC) requirements for labeling. Manufacturers are required to use the revised DOE representative average unit costs when the FTC publishes new ranges of comparability for specific covered products, 16 CFR part 305. Interested parties can also find information covering the FTC labeling requirements at <http://www.ftc.gov/appliances>.

DOE last published representative average unit costs of residential energy in a **Federal Register** notice entitled, "Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Representative Average Unit Costs of Energy", dated August 14, 2020, 85 FR 49645.

On April 16, 2021, the cost figures published in this notice will become effective and supersede those cost figures published on August 14, 2020. The cost figures set forth in this notice will be effective until further notice.

DOE's Energy Information Administration (EIA) has developed the 2021 representative average unit after-tax residential costs found in this notice. These costs for electricity, natural gas, No. 2 heating oil, and propane are based on simulations used to produce the February 2021, EIA *Short-Term Energy Outlook* (EIA releases the *Outlook* monthly). The representative average unit after-tax cost for kerosene is derived from its price relative to that of heating oil, based on the 2010 to 2013 averages of the U.S. refiner price to end users, which include all the major energy-consuming sectors in the U.S. for these fuels. The source for these price data is the February 2021, *Monthly Energy Review* DOE/EIA-0035(2021/2). The

representative average unit after-tax cost for propane is derived from its price relative to that of heating oil, based on the 2021 averages of the U.S. residential sector prices found in the *Annual Energy Outlook 2021*, AEO2021) (February 3, 2021). The *Short-Term Energy Outlook*, the *Monthly Energy Review*, and the *Annual Energy Outlook* are available on the EIA website at <http://www.eia.doe.gov>. For more information on the data sources used in this Notice, contact the National Energy Information Center, Forrestal Building, EI-30, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-8800, email: [infoctr@eia.doe.gov](mailto:infoctr@eia.doe.gov).

The 2021 representative average unit costs under section 323(b)(4) of the Act are set forth in Table 1, and will become effective April 16, 2021. They will remain in effect until further notice.

**Signing Authority**

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on March 10, 2021,

by Kelly Speakes-Backman, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on March 11, 2021.

**Treena V. Garrett,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.*

TABLE 1—REPRESENTATIVE AVERAGE UNIT COSTS OF ENERGY FOR FIVE RESIDENTIAL ENERGY SOURCES (2021)

Type of energy	Per million Btu <sup>1</sup>	In commonly used terms	As required by test procedure
Electricity .....	\$39.01	13.31¢/kWh <sup>2,3</sup> .....	\$0.133/kWh
Natural Gas .....	10.64	\$1.064/therm <sup>4</sup> or \$11.56/MCF <sup>5,6</sup> .....	\$0.00001064/Btu
No. 2 Heating Oil .....	19.73	\$2.71/gallon <sup>7</sup> .....	\$0.00001973/Btu
Propane .....	19.21	\$1.75/gallon <sup>8</sup> .....	\$0.00001921/Btu
Kerosene .....	23.35	\$3.15/gallon <sup>9</sup> .....	\$0.00002335/Btu

Sources: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Short-Term Energy Outlook* (February, 2021), *Annual Energy Outlook* (February 3, 2021), and *Monthly Energy Review* (February, 2021).

Notes: Prices include taxes.

<sup>1</sup> Btu stands for British thermal units.

<sup>2</sup> kWh stands for kilowatt hour.

<sup>3</sup> 1 kWh = 3,412 Btu.

<sup>4</sup> 1 therm = 100,000 Btu.

<sup>5</sup> MCF stands for 1,000 cubic feet.

<sup>6</sup> For the purposes of this table, one cubic foot of natural gas has an energy equivalence of 1,039 Btu.

<sup>7</sup> For the purposes of this table, one gallon of No. 2 heating oil has an energy equivalence of 137.38 Btu.

<sup>8</sup> For the purposes of this table, one gallon of liquid propane has an energy equivalence of 91,333 Btu.

<sup>9</sup> For the purposes of this table, one gallon of kerosene has an energy equivalence of 135,000 Btu.

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Northern New Mexico**

**AGENCY:** Office of Environmental Management, Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open virtual meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice announces an online virtual combined meeting of the Consent Order Committee and Risk Evaluation and Management Committee of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Northern New Mexico. The Federal

Advisory Committee Act requires that public notice of this online virtual meeting be announced in the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** Wednesday, April 14, 2021; 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** This meeting will be held virtually via Webex. To attend, please contact Menice Santistevan by email, [Menice.Santistevan@em.doe.gov](mailto:Menice.Santistevan@em.doe.gov), no later than 5:00 p.m. MT on Monday, April 12, 2021.

**To Sign Up for Public Comment:** Please contact Menice Santistevan by email, [Menice.Santistevan@em.doe.gov](mailto:Menice.Santistevan@em.doe.gov), no later than 5:00 p.m. MT on Monday, April 12, 2021.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Menice Santistevan, Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board

(NNMCAB), 94 Cities of Gold Road, Santa Fe, NM 87506. Phone (505) 995-0393 or Email: [Menice.Santistevan@em.doe.gov](mailto:Menice.Santistevan@em.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Purpose of the Board:** The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE-EM and site management in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

**Purpose of the Consent Order Committee (COC):** It is the mission of the COC to review the Consent Order, evaluate its strengths and weaknesses, and make recommendation as to how to improve the Consent Order. It is also within the mission of this committee to review and ensure implementation of NNMCAB Recommendation 2019-02,