

number of small entities. The only small entity that would be affected is the PACER Center, Inc., which operates the Technical Assistance ALLIANCE for Parent Centers project.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This extension and waiver does not contain any information collection requirements.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is subject to the requirements of Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive Order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive Order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

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(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.328, Training and Information for Parents of Children with Disabilities.)

Dated: January 27, 2003.

Robert H. Pasternack,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 03-2193 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

DOE Response to Recommendation 2002-2 of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, Weapons Laboratory Support of the Defense Nuclear Complex

AGENCY: Department of Energy, DOE.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 2002-2, concerning weapons Laboratory support of the DOE nuclear complex at Department of Energy Defense Nuclear Facilities was published in the **Federal Register** on October 10, 2002 (67 FR 63081). On November 21, 2002 the Secretary requested a 45-Day Extension to respond. In accordance with section 315(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 2286d(b), the Secretary transmitted the following response to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board on January 8, 2003.

DATES: Comments, data, views, or arguments concerning the Secretary's response are due on or before February 7, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Send comments, data, views, or arguments concerning the Secretary's response to: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue NW., Suite 700, Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Karen L. Boardman, Director, Office of Complex Readiness, Albuquerque Operations Office, Pennsylvania & H Street, Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, NM 87116.

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 8, 2003.

Mark B. Whitaker, Jr.,

Departmental Representative to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

January 8, 2003.

The Honorable John T. Conway,
Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, 625 Indiana Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20004.

Dear Mr. Chairman: On October 3, 2002, the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) issued recommendation 2002-2, Weapons Laboratory Support of the Defense Nuclear Complex. The Department agrees that providing the defense nuclear complex with appropriate support is an essential priority. We also recognize that "one-size-fits-all" organizational structures and systems are not appropriate for our weapons laboratories.

The Department accepts recommendation 2002-2 and will develop an implementation plan to accomplish the following:

- We will re-emphasize the policy that the nuclear weapons program is the top priority among all activities at the weapons laboratories.
- Each weapons laboratory will review its existing processes for assigning individuals as the senior point of contact for each weapons system and ensure that selection criteria, training and mentoring, and succession planning are in place. Personnel management is an internal process of the weapons laboratories and should not be

prescribed by the Department. However, the Department will ensure that the end result is that senior technically competent individuals are assigned as the point of contact for each weapons system. A list of senior individuals assigned as the point of contact of each weapon system will be provided.

- Each weapons laboratory will review its existing management system and demonstrate that through the appropriate alignment of a combination of internal organizational structure, programs, and procedures that the roles and responsibilities of each weapons point of contact are clearly defined. The point of contact for each weapon will be empowered to direct appropriate resources to ensure the safety of operations in the nuclear weapons complex within his/her assigned weapon system or have direct access to the management authority to acquire the necessary support.

- The Department will establish and staff a Federal function at each site office managing a weapons laboratory contract to ensure that the laboratory support requirements related to safety of operations of the defense nuclear weapons complex are being tracked and met. For this function, the National Nuclear Security Administration reengineering will clarify the roles and responsibilities and the contractual lines of authority for providing direction and resolving competing requirements for resources.

I have designated Ms. Karen Boardman as the responsible manager for developing the Department's implementation plan for this recommendation. Ms. Boardman may be reached at (505) 845-6039.

Sincerely,

Signed by Secretary Spencer Abraham.

[FR Doc. 03-2165 Filed 1-29-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2597]

Northeast Generation Company (Proposed To Be Combined With Project No. 2576); Notice of Authorization for Continued Project Operation

January 24, 2003.

On August 31, 1999, The Connecticut Light and Power Company, licensee for the Falls Village Project No. 2597, filed an application for a new or subsequent license pursuant to the Federal Power Act (FPA) and the Commission's regulations thereunder. Project No. 2597 is located on the Housatonic River in Litchfield County, Connecticut. The application proposes to combine Project No. 2597 with the licensed Housatonic Project No. 2576. The application further requests that the Commission issue a single new license for both