

information collected consists of petitions, reports, and accreditation notifications. The information collected is required to determine if accrediting agencies or foreign medical and foreign veterinary medical programs comply and are comparable to the Secretary of Education's criteria for recognition outlined in 34 CFR 600.55 and CFR 600.56. The information is used to allow the Secretary to make determinations on new, extension and/or continuing recognition or comparability status. Only postsecondary institutions and countries deemed to be using comparable standards obtain Title IV funding for its students.

**Kate Mullan,**

*Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31484 Filed 12-14-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Funding Additional Awards; Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Program

**AGENCY:** Institute of Education Sciences, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Deputy Director for Policy and Research, delegated the duties of the Director, of the Institute of Education Sciences (Institute) announces the Institute's intent to fund three additional grant awards under the Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Program, specifically under the Supporting Early Learning from Preschool Through Early Elementary School Grades topic. The Institute takes this action because of the number of high-quality applications received and the fact that funding is available in fiscal year (FY) 2016 to support these additional grant awards. The Institute expects to use an estimated \$1.8 million for the three additional awards in FY 2016.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Allen Ruby. Telephone: (202) 219-1591 or by email: [Allen.Ruby@ed.gov](mailto:Allen.Ruby@ed.gov).

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf or a text telephone, call the Federal Relay Service, toll free, at 1-800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On April 15, 2015, the Institute published a notice inviting applications in the **Federal Register** (80 FR 20203) for new awards in FY 2016 under the Research

Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy and Practice Program. The notice indicated that the Institute would award a maximum of four grants under the Supporting Early Learning from Preschool Through Early Elementary School Grades topic but also that this number may be increased through a notice in the **Federal Register**.

In response to that notice and the accompanying Request for Applications (RFA), the Institute received seven high-quality applications for grants under the Supporting Early Learning from Preschool Through Early Elementary School Grades topic. All seven applications received high scores by peer reviewers. Because sufficient funds are available, the Institute intends to fund all seven applications.

**Accessible Format:** Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the RFA in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc) on request to the program contact 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](http://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 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](http://www.federalregister.gov). Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.305N.

**Delegation of Authority:** The Secretary of Education has delegated authority to Ruth Neild, Deputy Director for Policy and Research, to perform the functions and duties of the Director for the Institute of Education Sciences.

**Program Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 9501 *et seq.*

Dated: December 10, 2015.

**Ruth Neild,**

*Deputy Director for Policy and Research.*

[FR Doc. 2015-31517 Filed 12-14-15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2015-ICCD-0139]

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2017-2019

**AGENCY:** National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Department of Education (ED).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. chapter 3501 *et seq.*), ED is proposing a new information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before February 16, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** To access and review all the documents related to the information collection listed in this notice, please use <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching the Docket ID number ED-2015-ICCD-0139. Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the Docket ID number or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. *Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted.* Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ, Room 2E103, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Kashka Kubdzela via email at [kashka.kubzdela@ed.gov](mailto:kashka.kubzdela@ed.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Department of Education (ED), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps the Department assess the impact of its information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand the Department's information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format. ED is soliciting comments on the proposed information collection request (ICR) that is described below. The Department of Education is especially interested in

public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

*Title of Collection:* National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2017–2019.

*OMB Control Number:* 1850–NEW (previously 1850–0790).

*Type of Review:* A new information collection.

*Respondents/Affected Public:* Individuals.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses:* 816,263.

*Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours:* 397,894.

*Abstract:* This information collection is a revision to information collection 1850–0790; however, the Department is requesting a new OMB control number in place of the old number.

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), is a federally authorized survey of student achievement at grades 4, 8, and 12 in various subject areas, such as mathematics, reading, writing, science, U.S. history, civics, geography, economics, technology and engineering literacy (TEL), and the arts. The National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (Public Law 107–279 Title III, section 303) requires the assessment to collect data on specified student groups and characteristics, including information organized by race/ethnicity, gender, socio-economic status, disability, and limited English proficiency. It requires fair and accurate presentation of achievement data and permits the collection of background, noncognitive, or descriptive information that is related to academic achievement and aids in fair reporting of results. The intent of the law is to provide representative sample data on student achievement for the nation, the states, and subpopulations of students and to monitor progress over time. The nature of NAEP is that burden alternates from a relatively low burden in national-level administration years to a substantial burden increase in state-level

administration years when the sample has to allow for estimates for individual states and some of the large urban districts. This submission requests OMB's approval for main NAEP assessments in 2017, 2018, and 2019, including operational, pilot, and special studies. The NAEP results will be reported to the public through the Nation's Report Card as well as other online NAEP tools.

Dated: December 10, 2015.

**Kate Mullan,**

*Acting Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Office of the Chief Privacy Officer, Office of Management.*

[FR Doc. 2015–31521 Filed 12–14–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

#### Notice of Commission Staff Attendance

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) hereby gives notice that members of the Commission's staff may attend the following meeting related to the transmission planning activities of the New York Independent System Operator, Inc.

#### The New York Independent System Operator, Inc. Electric System Planning Working Group Meeting (CARIS Forum)

*December 17, 2015, 2 p.m.–3:30 p.m. (EST)*

The above-referenced meeting will be via web conference and teleconference.

The above-referenced meeting is open to stakeholders.

Further information may be found at: [http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets\\_operations/services/planning/index.jsp](http://www.nyiso.com/public/markets_operations/services/planning/index.jsp)

The discussions at the meeting described above may address matters at issue in the following proceedings:

*New York Independent System Operator, Inc.*, Docket No. ER13–102.

*ISO New England Inc., et al.*, Docket Nos. ER13–1957, *et al.*

*ISO New England Inc.*, Docket Nos. ER13–193 and ER13–196.

*New York Independent System Operator, Inc.*, Docket No. ER15–2059.

*New York Independent System Operator, Inc.*, Docket No. ER16–120.

*New York Transco, LLC*, Docket No. ER15–572.

For more information, contact James Eason, Office of Energy Market Regulation, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission at (202) 502–8622 or [James.Eason@ferc.gov](mailto:James.Eason@ferc.gov).

Dated: December 9, 2015.

**Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2015–31475 Filed 12–14–15; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. OR16–8–000]

#### Powder River Crude Services, LLC; Powder River Express, LLC; Notice of Petition for Declaratory Order

Take notice that on December 9, 2015, pursuant to Rule 207(a)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.207(a)(2)(2015), Powder River Crude Services, LLC and Powder River Express, LLC filed a petition requesting a declaratory order approving the overall tariff and rate structure, open season procedures, prorationing provisions, and other terms of service associated with a new crude oil pipeline in the Powder River Basin of Wyoming. The pipeline is intended to connect crude oil production areas with downstream markets, including rail and other pipeline interconnections, as more fully explained in the petition.

Any person desiring to intervene or to protest in this proceeding must file in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 385.214) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a notice of intervention or motion to intervene, as appropriate. Such notices, motions, or protests must be filed on or before the comment date. Anyone filing a motion to intervene or protest must serve a copy of that document on the Petitioner.

The Commission encourages electronic submission of protests and interventions in lieu of paper, using the FERC Online links at <http://www.ferc.gov>. To facilitate electronic service, persons with Internet access who will eFile a document and/or be listed as a contact for an intervenor must create and validate an eRegistration account using the