

record each hearing and will include transcripts of the hearings on the public docket for the proposed rule on the regulations.gov website at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NOS-2025-0108>. The names provided by each speaker will also be published as part of the transcripts.

- The virtual public hearings do not replace the process for submission of written comments. Written comments on the proposed rule may be submitted electronically through the proposed rule's regulations.gov docket at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NOS-2025-0108>. NOAA will not respond during the hearings to oral comments or questions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kerry Kehoe, (240) 560–8518, kerry.kehoe@noaa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

DSHMRA (30 U.S.C. 1401–1473) charges the NOAA Administrator with the responsibility for issuing to U.S. citizens licenses for exploration and permits for commercial recovery of polymetallic nodules from the deep seabed in areas beyond national jurisdiction. U.S. citizens must obtain appropriate licenses and permits from NOAA before undertaking deep seabed mining.¹

DSHMRA, which was signed into law in 1980, requires the NOAA Administrator to promulgate regulations as necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act. 30 U.S.C. 1468. NOAA published its DSHMRA exploration license regulations (15 CFR part 970) in 1981, and its commercial recovery permit regulations (15 CFR part 971) in 1989. As described in NOAA's proposed rule, *DSHMRA Proposed Rule 90 FR 29806–29817 (July 7, 2025)* (Docket No. 250630–0118, RIN 0648–BN96), NOAA proposes to add a consolidated exploration license and commercial recovery permit process as well as make changes to other obsolete sections of the license and permit regulations.

The proposed rule includes a request for comments on the Regulatory Impact Analysis/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (IRFA), also located at the regulations.gov docket, <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA->

NOS-2025-0108, and on the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) analysis set forth in the proposed rule. NOAA also requests comments on the implementation of Executive Order 14294: Fighting Overcriminalization in Federal Regulations, as further detailed in Section III below.

II. Virtual Public Hearings

DSHMRA requires that NOAA hold a public hearing for proposed changes to the DSHMRA regulations. See 30 U.S.C. 1426(a). NOAA has determined that two virtual public hearings are the best way to reach a maximum number of potential public hearing participants. At the virtual public hearings, and after NOAA describes the virtual public hearing logistics and provides a brief overview of the proposed rule, NOAA will enable persons to provide oral comments on the proposed rule, the PRA analysis, the Regulatory Impact Analysis prepared for the proposed rule, available at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NOS-2025-0108>, and/or the implementation of Executive Order 14294 described below. See the instructions above in the **ADDRESSES** section for the virtual public hearing logistics.

III. Miscellaneous Rulemaking Requirements

Executive Order 14294 Fighting Overcriminalization in Federal Regulations

NOAA hereby provides public notice that it would apply *Executive Order 14294* to any final rule issued regarding the proposed revisions to the DSHMRA regulations. Section 5 of Executive Order 14294 provides, in relevant part, that notices of proposed rulemaking (NPRMs) and final rules published in the **Federal Register**, the violation of which may constitute criminal regulatory offenses, should include a statement identifying that the rule or proposed rule is a criminal regulatory offense and the authorizing statute. In addition, Section 5 states that the regulatory text of all NPRMs and final rules with criminal consequences published in the **Federal Register** after the date of this order should explicitly state a mens rea requirement for each element of a criminal regulatory offense, accompanied by citations to the relevant provisions of the authorizing statute.

The Executive Order defines a “criminal regulatory offense” as “a Federal regulation that is enforceable by a criminal penalty.” Exec. Order No. 14,294 section 3(b) (90 FR 20363).

DSHMRA establishes that a person subject to the jurisdiction of the United States is guilty of a criminal offense “if such person willfully and knowingly commits any act prohibited by section 1461 of [DSHMRA].” 30 U.S.C. 1463(a). Acts prohibited under section 1461 include “violat[ing] . . . any regulation issued under [DSHMRA], or any term, condition, or restriction of any license or permit issued to such person under [DSHMRA].” 30 U.S.C. 1461(1).

NOAA will accept and consider public comments regarding the implementation of Executive Order 14294 for any final rule concerning the proposed revisions to the DSHMRA regulations for the duration of the proposed rule's public comment period, including (i) written comments submitted through the proposed rule's *regulations.gov* docket, <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/NOAA-NOS-2025-0108>, and (ii) oral comments provided at the virtual public hearings.

Authority: 30 U.S.C. 1426(a).

Laura Grimm,

Chief of Staff Performing the Duties of Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

[FR Doc. 2025–14657 Filed 8–1–25; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED–2025–SCC–0283]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2026 Amendment #1

AGENCY: Institute of Education Sciences (IES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing a revision of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 3, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice. Click on this link www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain to access the site. Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting “Department of Education” under “Currently Under Review,” then

¹ Mining activities within the U.S. outer continental shelf are governed by the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331–1356c), which is administered by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management within the Department of the Interior. The term “U.S. outer continental shelf” includes the extended continental shelf in areas adjacent to the U.S. States and is limited to the exclusive economic zone in areas adjacent to any territory of the United States.

check the “Only Show ICR for Public Comment” checkbox. *Reginfo.gov* provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the “View Information Collection (IC) List” link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the “View Supporting Statement and Other Documents” link. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Matt Soldner, 202–453–7441.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department 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) 2026 Amendment #1.

OMB Control Number: 1850–0928.

Type of Review: A revision of a currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals and Households; State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 796,937.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 456,764.

Abstract: 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, and civics. The National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (Pub. L. 107–279, title III, section 303) requires the assessment to collect data on specified student groups and characteristics, including information organized by race/ethnicity, sex, 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. NAEP consists of two assessment programs: the NAEP long-term trend (LTT) assessment and the main NAEP assessment. The LTT assessments are given at the national level only and are administered to students at ages 9, 13, and 17 in a manner that is very different from that used for the main NAEP assessments. LTT reports mathematics and reading results that present trend data since the 1970s. In addition to the operational assessments, NAEP uses two other kinds of assessment activities: pilot assessments and special studies. Pilot assessments test items and procedures for future administrations of NAEP, while special studies (e.g., the Middle School Transcript Study (MSTS), and the High School Transcript Study (HSTS)) are opportunities for NAEP to investigate particular aspects of the assessment without impacting the reporting of the NAEP results.

This request is an Amendment to the initially approved NAEP 2026 Clearance Package (OMB# 1850–0928 v.36) to conduct NAEP in 2026, specifically: (1) Main NAEP operational assessments will include for grades 4 and 8 (first administration of the new frameworks for reading and mathematics), grade 8 (civics and U.S. history); in Puerto Rico, grades 4 and 8 mathematics will be the only subject assessed and will include the new framework; (2) Pilot testing in grades 4, 8, and 12 (reading and mathematics); in Puerto Rico, grades 4 and 8 mathematics will be the only subject assessed.

Some documents in this package will be updated in Amendment #2, which will be posted for a separate 30-day public comment period following the 30-day public comment period for Amendment #1. These packages will contain all final materials to be used for the data collection in early 2026.

As of April 2025, NCES’s assurances of confidentiality protections for NAEP 2026 have changed due to recent staffing changes at the Department of Education. NCES has removed the Foundations of Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018, Title III, Part B, Confidential Information Protection (“CIPSEA”) as a confidentiality assurance. However, confidentiality assurances under the Education

Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA) remain in effect.

Ross Santy,

Chief Data Officer, Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.

[FR Doc. 2025–14709 Filed 8–1–25; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings #1

Take notice that the Commission received the following exempt wholesale generator filings:

Docket Numbers: EG25–419–000.

Applicants: Boot Hill Solar LLC.

Description: Boot Hill Solar LLC submits Notice of Self-Certification of Exempt Wholesale Generator Status.

Filed Date: 7/30/25.

Accession Number: 20250730–5056.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 8/20/25.

Take notice that the Commission received the following electric rate filings:

Docket Numbers: ER09–1117–001.

Applicants: NGP Blue Mountain I LLC.

Description: Notice of Non-Material Change in Status of NGP Blue Mountain I LLC.

Filed Date: 7/30/25.

Accession Number: 20250730–5081.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 8/20/25.

Docket Numbers: ER10–2034–009.

Applicants: Duke Energy Indiana, Inc. *Description:* Notice of Change in Status of Duke Energy Indiana, LLC.

Filed Date: 7/29/25.

Accession Number: 20250729–5170.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 8/19/25.

Docket Numbers: ER10–3278–005; ER20–2060–004.

Applicants: MPH Rockaway Peak, LLC, Forked River Power LLC.

Description: Notice of Non-Material Change in Status of Forked River Power LLC, et al.

Filed Date: 7/30/25.

Accession Number: 20250730–5079.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 8/20/25.

Docket Numbers: ER19–2583–002.

Applicants: Green River Wind Farm Phase 1, LLC.

Description: Supplement to 06/30/2023, Triennial Market Power Analysis for Northwest Region of Green River Wind Farm Phase 1, LLC.

Filed Date: 7/25/25.

Accession Number: 20250725–5178.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 8/15/25.

Docket Numbers: ER19–2621–003; ER19–665–003; ER19–666–003; ER19–667–004; ER19–669–004.