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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Agenda

Monday, February 24, 2025

The Committee will discuss: (a) potential comments to the State of Alaska Board of Fish on statewide shellfish issues; and (b) other business. The agenda is subject to change, and the latest version will be posted <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/3078> prior to the meeting, along with meeting materials.

Connection Information

You can attend the meeting online using a computer, tablet, or smart phone, or by phone only. Connection information will be posted online at: <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/3078>.

Public Comment

Public comment letters will be accepted and should be submitted electronically to <https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/Details/3078>.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: February 5, 2025.

Rey Israel Marquez,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2025-02415 Filed 2-7-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

Scoping Period Extension for the Notice of Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Columbia River System Operations

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD; Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior.

ACTION: Notice of intent; extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation (Co-Lead Agencies) are extending the scoping period and re-scheduling public meetings for the notice of intent entitled “Notice of Intent to Prepare a

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Columbia River System Operations,” published in the **Federal Register** on December 18, 2024. The scoping period is now scheduled to end May 9, 2025 and public meetings will now be held the week of April 7, 2025.

DATES: The Co-Lead Agencies invite federal and state agencies, Native American Tribes, local governments, and the public to submit scoping comments relevant to the supplemental National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process no later than May 9, 2025. Information will also be provided at public meetings. Information on the public meetings is provided under the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this Notice.

ADDRESSES: Written comments, requests to be placed on the project mailing list, and requests for information may be mailed by letter to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Northwestern Division Attn: CRSO SEIS, P.O. Box 2870, Portland, OR 97208-2870; or by email to columbiariver@usace.army.mil. All comment letters will be available via the project website at <https://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/columbiariver/>. All comments and materials received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record, and may be released to the public. Interested parties should not submit confidential business or otherwise sensitive or protected information.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Fleeger, Columbia River Basin Policy and Environmental Coordinator, Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1 (800) 290-5033 or email columbiariver@usace.army.mil. Additional information can be found at the project website: <https://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/columbiariver/>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The scoping period for the notice of intent published in the **Federal Register** on December 18, 2024 (89 FR 102869) was originally scheduled to end on March 20, 2025 but is now being extended to May 9, 2025. The Co-Lead Agencies invite all affected Federal, State, and local agencies, affected Tribes, other interested parties, and the general public to participate in the NEPA process during development of the SEIS. Three (3) virtual public scoping meetings will be held the week of April 7, 2025. The specific dates, times, and meeting information will be published on the project website: <https://www.nwd.usace.army.mil/columbiariver/>. Additional public

meetings will be scheduled after release of the draft SEIS.

William C Hannan,

Brigadier General, U.S. Army, Division Commander,

Jennifer Carrington,

Regional Director, Columbia-Pacific Northwest Region, Bureau of Reclamation.

[FR Doc. 2025-02419 Filed 2-7-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3720-58-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Retroactive Application of the Revised Version of the Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance

AGENCY: Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary announces updates to awardees’ Grant Award Notices (GANs) to conform the retroactive application of the 2024 revision of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (the Uniform Guidance) to cross-agency understandings and established interpretive principles. This update applies to all Department grants that are subject to the Uniform Guidance and withdraws and supersedes prior Department policies and actions, including the notice titled Application of the Revised Version of the Uniform Guidance to Department Grants published on Jan. 16, 2025.

DATES: This change is effective February 10, 2025.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On April 22, 2024, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published a final rule in the **Federal Register**, “Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance” that revised the Uniform Guidance. See 89 FR 30046 (the April 22 revised Guidance). This final rule, effective as of October 1, 2024, made certain revisions to the process and requirements for grant administration.

On January 16, 2025, the Department of Education issued a notice updating the terms and conditions of Department grants to incorporate certain parts of the revised Uniform Guidance. See 90 FR 4727 (the Jan. 16 Notice). In particular, the Department added the following condition to Box 10 of its GANs:

By the drawdown of funds under this GAN, the grantee accepts that this award is subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Title 2 CFR part 200 as

revised at 89 FR 30136–30208 (April 22, 2024).

The Department is now withdrawing this notice of January 16, 2025, and the condition it sets forth in Box 10 of the Department's GANs. The revised Box 10 is below.

OMB set the effective date for the April 22 revised Guidance as October 1, 2024. *See* 89 FR 30208. Agencies had the option to “elect to apply the financial guidance to Federal awards issued prior to October 1, 2024,” but no “earlier than June 21, 2024.” *Id.* The Department's Jan. 16 Notice purported to retroactively apply the revised Uniform Guidance to grants issued before June 21, 2024, creating uncertainty among grant recipients and generating non-conformity with the policies and interpretive understandings of other federal agencies which follow the Uniform Guidance.

For federal grant programs, courts consistently apply the legal requirements that were in effect at the time the grants were made. *Bennett v. New Jersey*, 470 U.S. 632, 638 (1984). The Supreme Court has held that “changes in substantive requirements for federal grants should not be presumed to operate retroactively.” *Id.* General background principles and “practical considerations related to the administration of federal grant programs” support the principle “that obligations generally should be determined by reference to the law in effect when the grants were made.” *Id.*

After consulting with OMB, the Department understands that nothing in the April 22 revised Guidance departed from this basic interpretive principle. While OMB provided agencies with some discretion to specify an application date prior to the rule's effective date of October 1, 2024, the earliest date OMB's revisions permitted an agency to elect for the guidance to apply was June 21, 2024, two months after the final rule was issued. This period offered agencies and grantees sufficient time to adjust and ensured that federal grants would not be retroactively changed. As noted, federal grants sound in contract, and retroactive changes to the terms are unfair to the granting agency and the grantee. *See Bennett*, 470 U.S. at 638.

To remove any uncertainty or ambiguity, the Department now makes clear that the April 22 revised Guidance for Federal Financial Assistance only applies to grants awarded after the OMB effective date of October 1, 2024. The Department is withdrawing its Jan. 16 Notice, removing its language from Box 10, and instead adding the following new language to Box 10:

By the drawdown of funds under this GAN, the grantee accepts Department regulations that this award is subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Title 2 CFR part 200. The specific version applicable depends on the date of the award: (i) grants issued on or after October 1, 2024, are subject to Title 2 CFR part 200 as revised at 89 FR 30136–30208 (April 22, 2024), while (ii) grants issued prior to the October 1, 2024 effective date of those revisions, 89 FR 30046–30208, are governed by the version of the Uniform Guidance applicable at the time of the Federal award, *provided that* for grants issued on or after June 21, 2024, where grantees drew down funds under the previous version of Box 10, those grants are subject to Title 2 CFR part 200 as revised at 89 FR 30136–30208 (April 22, 2024).

While grantees may not automatically receive a new printed GAN, the revised Box 10 and this notice supersede any previous GAN or Notice. Grantees are not required to take any action but are encouraged to maintain a copy of this notice within their grant files as documentation for grant management and auditing purposes.

Program Authority: 2 CFR part 200 as adopted at 89 FR 30046 (April 22, 2024); 2 CFR 3474.

Thomas Wheeler,
Acting General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 2025–02396 Filed 2–7–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program—Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Training and Technical Assistance; Corrections

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

ACTION: Notice; corrections.

SUMMARY: On January 14, 2025, the Department of Education (Department) published in the **Federal Register** a notice inviting applications (NIA) for fiscal year (FY) 2025 for the Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program—Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Training and Technical Assistance. We are correcting the date that applications will be available, adding the deadline date for the transmittal of applications, and correcting the deadline for intergovernmental review. All other information in the NIA remains the same.

DATES: These corrections are applicable on February 10, 2025.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Williams, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 4A220, Washington, DC 20202–2600. Telephone: (202) 245–6263. Email: mary.williams@ed.gov.

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability and wish to access telecommunications relay services, please dial 7–1–1.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 14, 2025, we published in the **Federal Register** (90 FR 3188) the NIA for the FY 2025 Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Program—Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind Training and Technical Assistance competition, Assistance Listing Number 84.177Z. We are correcting the date that applications will be available and the intergovernmental review deadline and adding the deadline for the transmittal of applications. All other information in the NIA remains the same.

Corrections

In FR Doc. 2025–00533 appearing on pages 3188–3194 of the **Federal Register** of January 14, 2025, we revise the text under **DATES** in the right column, to read as follows:

Applications Available: January 15, 2025.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 17, 2025.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 16, 2025.

Accessible Format: On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package 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, compact disc, or other accessible format.

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