

lateral, innovative U.S.-Brazilian approach to training and education.

## VI. Award Administration Information

1. *Award Notices:* If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. *Administrative and National Policy Requirements:* We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. *Reporting:* At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118.

4. *Performance Measures:* The success of this competition depends upon (1) the extent to which funded projects are being replicated (i.e., adopted or adapted by others); and (2) the manner in which projects are being institutionalized and continued after funding. These two performance measures constitute the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education's (FIPSE's) indicators of the success of the program. If funded, you will be asked to collect and report data from your project on steps taken toward achieving these goals. Consequently, applicants are advised to include these two outcomes in conceptualizing the design, implementation, and evaluation of their proposed projects. Institutionalization and replication are important outcomes that ensure the ultimate success of international consortia funded through this program.

## VII. Agency Contact

*For Further Information Contact:* Sylvia W. Crowder, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, U.S.-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program, 1990 K Street, NW., 6th floor, Washington, DC 20006-8544. Telephone: (202) 502-7514.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed in this section.

## VIII. Other Information

*Electronic Access to This Document:* You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

**Note:** 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 on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: January 18, 2007.

**James F. Manning,**

*Delegated the Authority of Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. E7-1016 Filed 1-23-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Office of Postsecondary Education; Overview Information: International Research and Studies Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:* 84.017A.

*Dates:* Applications Available: January 24, 2007.

*Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:* March 12, 2007.

*Eligible Applicants:* Public and private agencies, organizations, institutions, and individuals.

*Estimated Available Funds:* The Administration has requested \$5,822,000 for the International Research and Studies Program for FY 2007, of which we intend to use an estimated \$1,553,000 for new awards. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to

allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

*Estimated Range of Awards:* \$50,000–\$200,000 per year.

*Estimated Average Size of Awards:* \$129,420.

*Estimated Number of Awards:* 12.

**Note:** The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

*Project Period:* Up to 36 months.

## Full Text of Announcement

### I. Funding Opportunity Description

*Purpose of Program:* The International Research and Studies Program provides grants to conduct research and studies to improve and strengthen instruction in modern foreign languages, area studies, and other international fields.

*Priority:* In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(ii), these priorities are from the regulations for this program (34 CFR 660.10, 660.34).

*Competitive Preference Priorities:* For FY 2007 these priorities are competitive preference priorities. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i) we award up to an additional five points to an application, depending on the extent to which the application meets this priority.

These priorities are:

#### *Competitive Preference Priority 1—Instructional Materials Applications*

This priority is:

The development and publication of instructional materials that serve to enhance international understanding for use by students and teachers of the following critical language areas: Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, as well as Indic, Iranian, and Turkic language families.

#### *Competitive Preference Priority 2—Research, Surveys and Studies Applications*

This priority is:

Research, surveys, proficiency assessments, or studies that foster linkages between K–12 and postsecondary language training.

*Program Authority:* 20 U.S.C. 1125.

*Applicable Regulations:* (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 80, 82, 84, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99. (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 655 and 660.

**Note:** The regulations in 34 CFR Part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

### II. Award Information

*Type of Award:* Discretionary grants.

**Estimated Available Funds:** The Administration has requested \$5,822,000 for the International Research and Studies Program for FY 2007, of which we intend to use an estimated \$1,553,000 for new awards. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

**Estimated Range of Awards:** \$50,000–\$200,000 per year.

**Estimated Average Size of Awards:** \$129,420.

**Estimated Number of Awards:** 12.

**Note:** The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

**Project Period:** Up to 36 months.

### III. Eligibility Information

1. **Eligible Applicants:** Public and private agencies, organizations, institutions, and individuals.

2. **Cost Sharing or Matching:** This program does not involve cost sharing or matching.

### IV. Application and Submission Information

1. **Address to Request Application Package:** Mr. Ed McDermott, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., suite 600, Washington, DC 20006–8521. Telephone: (202) 502–7636 or by e-mail: [ed.mcdermott@ed.gov](mailto:ed.mcdermott@ed.gov).

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the program contact person listed in this section.

2. **Content and Form of Application Submission:** Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package and instructions for this program. **Page Limit:** The application narrative is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit the section of the narrative that addresses the selection criteria to the equivalent of no more than 30 pages, using the following standards:

- A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides. Page numbers and an identifier may be outside of the 1” margin.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the

application narrative, *except* titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, captions and all text in charts, tables, and graphs may be single spaced. Charts, tables, figures, and graphs in the application narrative count toward the page limit.

- Use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch). However, you may use a 10-point font in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New or Arial. Applications submitted in any other font (including Times Roman and Arial Narrow) will be rejected.

- The page limit does not apply to Part I, the Application for Federal Assistance face sheet (SF 424); the supplemental information form required by the Department of Education; Part II, the budget information summary form (ED Form 524); and Part IV, the assurances and certifications. The page limit also does not apply to a table of contents. If you include any attachments or appendices not specifically requested, these items will be counted as part of the Program Narrative (Part III) for purposes of the page limit requirement. You must include your complete response to the selection criteria in the program narrative.

We will reject your application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the Equivalent of the page limit.

#### 3. Submission Dates and Times:

**Applications Available:** January 24, 2007.

**Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:** March 12, 2007. Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site ([Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)). For information (including dates and times) about how to submit your application electronically or by mail or hand delivery if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, please refer to Section IV. 6. **Other submission Requirements** in this notice.

Individuals with disabilities who need an accommodation or auxiliary aid in connection with the application process should contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** in section VII of this notice.

We do not consider an application that does not comply with the deadline requirements.

4. **Intergovernmental Review:** This program is not subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79.

5. **Funding Restrictions:** We reference the regulations outlining funding restrictions in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

6. **Other Submission Requirements:** Applications for grants under this program must be submitted electronically unless you qualify for an exception to this requirement in accordance with the instructions in this section.

#### a. Electronic Submission of Applications.

Applications for grants under the International Research and Studies Program—CFDA Number 84.017A must be submitted electronically using the Grants.gov Apply site at: <http://www.grants.gov>. Through this site, you will be able to download a copy of the application package, complete it offline, and then upload and submit your application. You may not e-mail an electronic copy of a grant application to us.

We will reject your application if you submit it in paper format unless, as described elsewhere in this section, you qualify for one of the exceptions to the electronic submission requirement *and* submit, no later than two weeks before the application deadline date, a written statement to the Department that you qualify for one of these exceptions. Further information regarding calculation of the date that is two weeks before the application deadline date is provided later in this section under *Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement*.

You may access the electronic grant application for the International Research and Studies Program at: <http://www.grants.gov>. You must search for the downloadable application package for this program by the CFDA number. Do not include the CFDA number's alpha suffix in your search.

#### Please note the following:

- When you enter the Grants.gov site, you will find information about submitting an application electronically through the site, as well as the hours of operation.

- Applications received by Grants.gov are time and date stamped. Your application must be fully uploaded and submitted, and must be date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system no later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. Except as otherwise noted in this section, we will not consider your application if it is date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system later than 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. When we retrieve your application from Grants.gov, we will notify you if we are

rejecting your application because it was date/time stamped by the Grants.gov system after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date.

- The amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you do not wait until the application deadline date to begin the submission process through Grants.gov.

- You should review and follow the Education Submission Procedures for submitting an application through Grants.gov that are included in the application package for this program to ensure that you submit your application in a timely manner to the Grants.gov system. You can also find the Education Submission Procedures pertaining to Grants.gov at: <http://e-Grants.ed.gov/help/GrantsgovSubmissionProcedures.pdf>.

- To submit your application via Grants.gov, you must complete all the steps in the Grants.gov registration process (see [http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get\\_registered.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp)). These steps include (1) registering your organization, (2) registering yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and (3) getting authorized as an AOR by your organization. Details on these steps are outlined in the Grants.gov 3-Step Registration Guide (see <http://www.grants.gov/section910/Grants.govRegistrationBrochure.pdf>). You also must provide on your application the same D-U-N-S Number used with this registration. Please note that the registration process may take five or more business days to complete, and you must have completed all registration steps to allow you to successfully submit an application via Grants.gov.

For individuals who plan to submit a grant application, you must follow the registration steps for individuals (see [http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get\\_registered.jsp](http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp)).

- You will not receive additional point value because you submit your application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, as described elsewhere in this section, and submit your application in paper format.

- You must submit all documents electronically including all information typically included on the Application for Federal Assistance (SF 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary

assurances and certifications. You must attach any narrative sections of your application as files in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format. If you upload a file type other than the three file types specified above or submit a password protected file, we will not review that material.

- Your electronic application must comply with any page limit requirements described in this notice.

- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment from Grants.gov that contains a Grants.gov tracking number. The Department will retrieve your application from Grants.gov and send you a second confirmation by e-mail that will include a PR/Award number (an ED-specified identifying number unique to your application).

- We may request that you provide us original signatures on forms at a later date.

**Application Deadline Date Extension in Case of Technical Issues with the Grants.gov System:** If you are prevented from electronically submitting your application on the application deadline date because of technical problems with the Grants.gov system, we will grant you an extension until 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, the following business day to enable you to transmit your application electronically, or by hand delivery. You also may mail your application by following the mailing instructions as described elsewhere in this notice. If you submit an application after 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date, please contact either of the persons listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, and provide an explanation of the technical problem you experienced with Grants.gov, along with the Grants.gov Support Desk Case Number (if available). We will accept your application if we can confirm that a technical problem occurred with the Grants.gov system and that that problem affected your ability to submit your application by 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the application deadline date. The Department will contact you after a determination is made on whether your application will be accepted.

**Note:** Extensions referred to in this section apply only to the unavailability of or technical problems with the Grants.gov system. We will not grant you an extension if you failed to fully register to submit your application to Grants.gov before the deadline date and time or if the technical problem you experienced is unrelated to the Grants.gov system.

**Exception to Electronic Submission Requirement:** You qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, and may submit your application in paper format, if you are unable to submit an application through the Grants.gov system because—

- You do not have access to the Internet; or

- You do not have the capacity to upload large documents to the Grants.gov system;

and

- No later than two weeks before the application deadline date (14 calendar days or, if the fourteenth calendar day before the application deadline date falls on a Federal holiday, the next business day following the Federal holiday), you mail or fax a written statement to the Department, explaining which of the two grounds for an exception prevent you from using the Internet to submit your application. If you mail your written statement to the Department, it must be postmarked no later than two weeks before the application deadline date. If you fax your written statement to the Department, we must receive the faxed statement no later than two weeks before the application deadline date.

**Address and mail or fax your statement to:** Ed McDermott, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20006–8521. FAX: (202) 502–7860.

Your paper application must be submitted in accordance with the mail or hand delivery instructions described in this notice.

**b. Submission of Paper Applications by Mail.**

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you may mail (through the U.S. Postal Service or a commercial carrier) your application to the Department. You must mail the original and two copies of your application, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the applicable following address:

**By mail through the U.S. Postal Service:**

U.S. Department of Education,  
Application Control Center,  
*Attention:* (CFDA Number 84.017A),  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW.,  
Washington, DC 20202–4260

or

**By mail through a commercial carrier:**

U.S. Department of Education,  
Application Control Center—Stop  
4260, *Attention:* (CFDA Number  
84.017A), 7100 Old Landover Road,  
Landover, MD 20785–1506.

Regardless of which address you use, you must show proof of mailing consisting of one of the following:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark,
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service,
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier, or
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education.

If you mail your application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark, or
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

If your application is postmarked after the application deadline date, we will not consider your application.

**Note:** The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

#### c. *Submission of Paper Applications by Hand Delivery.*

If you qualify for an exception to the electronic submission requirement, you (or a courier service) may deliver your paper application to the Department by hand. You must deliver the original and two copies of your application, by hand, on or before the application deadline date, to the Department at the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: (CFDA Number 84.017A), 550 12th Street, SW., Room 7041, Potomac Center Plaza, Washington, DC 20202-4260.

The Application Control Center accepts hand deliveries daily between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

**Note for Mail or Hand Delivery of Paper Applications:** If you mail or hand deliver your application to the Department:

- (1) You must indicate on the envelope and—if not provided by the Department—in Item 11 of the Application for Federal Education Assistance (SF 424) the CFDA number—and suffix letter, if any—of the competition under which you are submitting your application.
- (2) The Application Control Center will mail a grant application receipt acknowledgment to you. If you do not receive the grant application receipt acknowledgment within 15 business days from the application deadline date, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 245-6288.

## V. Application Review Information

**Selection Criteria:** The selection criteria for this program are from 34 CFR 655.31, 660.31, 660.32, and 660.33 and are as follows—

For instructional materials—  
Need for the project (10 points); Potential for the use of materials in programs to others (5 points); Account of related materials (10 points); Likelihood of achieving results (10 points); Expected contribution to other programs (10 points); Plan of operation (10 points); Quality of key personnel (10 points); Budget and cost effectiveness (5 points); Evaluation plan (15 points); Adequacy of resources (5 points); Description of final format (5 points); and Provisions for pre-testing and revision (5 points).

For research, surveys and studies—  
Need for the project (10 points); Usefulness of expected results (10 points); Development of new knowledge (10 points); Formulation of problems and knowledge of related research (10 points); Specificity of statement of procedures (5 points); Adequacy of methodology and scope of project (10 points); Plan of operation (10 points); Quality of key personnel (10 points); Budget and cost effectiveness (5 points); Evaluation plan (15 points); and Adequacy of resources (5 points).

## VI. Award Administration Information

1. **Award Notices:** If your application is successful, we notify your U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators and send you a Grant Award Notification (GAN). We may also notify you informally.

If your application is not evaluated or not selected for funding, we notify you.

2. **Administrative and National Policy Requirements:** We identify administrative and national policy requirements in the application package and reference these and other requirements in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice.

We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the *Applicable Regulations* section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. **Reporting:** At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as specified by

the Secretary in 34 CFR 75.118. Grantees are required to use the electronic data instrument Evaluation of Exchange, Language, International, and Area Studies (EELIAS) to complete the final report. Electronically formatted instructional materials such as CDs, DVDs, videos, computer diskettes and books produced by the grantee as part of the grant approved activities are also acceptable as final reports.

4. **Performance Measures:** Under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), the objective for the IRS program is to support the development of materials and conduct of research in less commonly taught languages and area studies to inform international education.

The Department will use the following measures to evaluate its success in meeting this objective.

**IRS Performance Measure 1:** Number of outreach activities that are adopted or further disseminated within a year, divided by the total number of IRS projects conducted in the current year.

**IRS Performance Measure 2:** Percent of projects judged to be successful by the program officer, based on a review of information provided in annual performance reports.

The information provided by grantees in their performance reports submitted via the electronic Evaluation of Exchange, Language, International, and Area Studies system will be the source of data for these measures.

## VII. Agency Contact

**For Further Information Contact:** Ed McDermott, International Education Programs Service, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., suite 6082, Washington, DC 20006-8521. Telephone: (202) 502-7636 or by e-mail: [ed.mcdermott@ed.gov](mailto:ed.mcdermott@ed.gov)

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to one of the program contact persons listed in this section.

## VIII. Other Information

**Electronic Access to This Document:** You may view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

**Note:** 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 on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

Dated: January 18, 2007.

**James F. Manning,**

*Delegated the Authority of Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. E7-1019 Filed 1-23-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

### Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Election Assistance Commission (EAC).

**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The EAC, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on a proposed information collection. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before March 24, 2007.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection in writing to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1225 New York Avenue, NW., Suite

1100, Washington, DC 20005, ATTN: Brian Hancock, Director of Voting System Certification; or via fax to 202-566-1392.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the EAC Voting System Testing and Certification Program Manual, please, write to the above address or call Brian Hancock, Director of Voting System Certification, 1225 New York Avenue, Suite 1100, Washington, DC, (202) 566-3100; Fax: (202) 566-1392. You may also view the proposed collection instrument by visiting the EAC Web site at <http://www.eac.gov>.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Title:* EAC Voting System Testing and Certification Program Manual.

*OMB Number:* 3265-0004.

*Type of Review:* Extension with revisions of a currently approved collection.

*Needs and Uses:* HAVA requires that the EAC certify and decertify voting systems (42 U.S.C. 15371). Section 231(a)(1) of HAVA specifically requires to EAC to “\* \* \* provide for the certification, decertification and recertification of voting system hardware and software by accredited laboratories.” The EAC will perform this mandated function through the use of its Voting System Testing and Certification Program. Voting systems certified by the EAC will be used by citizens to cast votes in Federal Elections. Therefore, it is paramount that the program operates in a reliable and effective manner. In order to certify a voting system, it is necessary for the EAC to (1) Require voting system manufacturers to submit information about their organization and the voting systems they submit for testing and certification; (2) require voting system manufacturers to retain voting system technical and test records; and (3) to provide a mechanism for election officials to report events which may effect a voting system's certification.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit institutions and state and local election officials.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 94 annually.

*Total Annual Responses:* 99 annually.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* 119 hours.

**Thomas R. Wilkey,**

*Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.*

[FR Doc. 07-290 Filed 1-23-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6820-KF-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Office of Fossil Energy; Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee: Solicitation of Nominations for Appointment as a Member to the Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy is soliciting nominations for candidates to serve as members of the Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee shall advise the Secretary of Energy on the development and implementation of programs under Subtitle J, Section 999 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT) related to ultra-deepwater natural gas and other petroleum resources and review and provide written comments on the annual plan as described in this subtitle of the EPACT. The membership of the Advisory Committee must be in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act and some members of the Advisory Committee may be appointed as special Government employees of the Department of Energy.

**DATES:** Nominations must be received by February 2, 2007.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information regarding this Request for Nominations please contact Ms. Elena Melchert, Mr. Bill Hochheiser, or Mr. James Slutz, Designated Federal Official (DFO), Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee, at [ultradeepwater@hq.doe.gov](mailto:ultradeepwater@hq.doe.gov) or (202) 586-5600. Complete text of Subtitle J, Section 999 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 can be found on the DOE Office of Fossil Energy Web site at <http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/oilgas/advisorycommittees/UltraDeepwater.html>.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

*Background:* Under Subtitle J, Section 999, the Secretary of Energy is required to carry out a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of technologies for ultra-deepwater and unconventional natural gas and other petroleum resource exploration and production, including addressing the technology challenges for small producers, safe operations, and environmental mitigation (including reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and sequestration of carbon). The activities should maximize the value of natural gas and other petroleum resources of the United States by increasing the supply