

Thereafter, the Governing Board will receive a report from the Executive Director of the Governing Board, and hear an update on the work of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES).

On May 16, the Board's standing committees—the Assessment Development Committee, the Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology, and the Reporting and Dissemination Committee will meet from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The Assessment Development Committee will meet in closed session from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Friday, May 16, and in open session from 11:30 a.m. to noon. The closed session is required to allow the Committee to discuss procurements for developing new NAEP frameworks in world history and technological literacy; to receive a briefing on an NCES reading content alignment study; and to review secure NAEP science pilot items for the 2009 assessment. The meeting must be conducted in closed session to allow the Committee to discuss confidential procurement information involving statements of work for new NAEP frameworks; to review results of a reading content alignment study of secure NAEP items for the 2009 reading assessment, and to review secure science pilot items for grades 4, 8, and 12 for the 2009 NAEP assessment. Public disclosure of the framework procurement information, prior to release of the Request for Proposals, would provide unfair advantage to potential bidders present at the meeting. This would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP program, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C. The reading content alignment discussion and review of science pilot items must be conducted in closed session as disclosure of proposed test items for the reading and science assessments would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP program, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 522b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C. From 11:30 to noon the Committee will meet in open session.

The Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology will meet in closed session from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 16, and in open session from 10:30 a.m. to noon. The closed session is required to allow the Committee to discuss procurements for setting achievement levels on the 2009 NAEP subjects and trend implications for this work. The meeting must be conducted in closed session in order to allow the Committee to discuss confidential procurement options for

structuring the work statements. Public disclosure of this information, prior to release of the Request for Proposals, would provide unfair advantage to potential bidders present at the meeting. This would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP program, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

The Reporting and Dissemination Committee will meet in open session from 9 a.m.–12 p.m.

The full Board will meet in closed session on May 16 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. to receive a briefing from the National Center of Education Statistics on results of the National Indian Education Study conducted by NAEP which has not been released to the public. The Governing Board will be provided with embargoed data on the results of the Indian Education Study that cannot be discussed in an open meeting prior to their official release. The meeting must therefore be conducted in closed session as premature disclosure of data would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP program, and is therefore protected by exemption 9(B) of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

On May 16, from 1 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. the full Board will meet in open session to hear a presentation from the Commissioner, New York State Education Department. The Board will also hear a panel discussion on New York State and New York City Schools to address issues related to standards and assessments. The May 16 session of the Board meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 3:45 p.m.

On May 17, the Nominations Committee will meet in closed session from 8:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. to review and discuss confidential information regarding nominees received/submitted for Board vacancies for terms beginning on October 1, 2008. These discussions pertain solely to internal personnel rules and practices of an agency and will disclose information of a personal nature where disclosure would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. As such, the discussions are protected by exemptions 2 and 6 of section 552b(c) of Title 5 U.S.C.

The full Board will meet in open session on May 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. to hear a presentation on "Inside the NAEP Black Box: Unraveling NAEP's Psychometric Mysteries." From 10:15 a.m. to 12 p.m. the Board will receive and take action on Committee reports. The May 17, 2008, session of the Board meeting will adjourn at 12 p.m.

Detailed minutes of the meeting, including summaries of the activities of the closed sessions and related matters that are informative to the public and consistent with the policy of section 5 U.S.C. 552b(c) will be available to the public within 14 days of the meeting. Records are kept of all Board proceedings and are available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite #825, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Washington, DC, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

*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/index.html>. 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: May 1, 2008.

**Charles E. Smith,**

*Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board, U.S. Department of Education.*

[FR Doc. E8-9946 Filed 5-5-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

---

## ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Notice

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

**ACTION:** Notice of Public Meeting Roundtable Discussion.

**DATE AND TIME:** Monday, May 5, 2008, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. (EST).

**PLACE:** United States Election Assistance Commission, 1225 New York, Ave, NW., Suite 150, Washington, DC 20005.

**AGENDA:** The Commission will host an interdisciplinary roundtable discussion of the Technical Guidelines Committee's (TGDC) recommended Voluntary Voting System Guidelines. The discussion will be focused upon the following topics: (1) The cost implications of the proposed VVSG; (2)

the effect of the new standards on the time in process for voting systems; (3) increasing the efficiency of testing; (4) the possible implementation time of the next iteration of the VVSG; (5) Innovation in voting technology; (6) Risks associated with voting system technology; (7) prioritizing the needed features of a voting system.

This meeting will be open to the public.

**PERSON TO CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:** Matthew Masterson, Telephone: (202) 566-3100.

**Thomas R. Wilkey,**

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

[FR Doc. E8-9753 Filed 5-5-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6820-KF-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Bonneville Power Administration

[BPA File No.: TRM-12]

#### 2012 Tiered Rate Methodology Proceeding; Public Hearings and Opportunities for Public Review and Comment

**Editorial Note:** FR Doc. E8-9572 was originally published at page 24059 in the issue of May 1, 2008. That document was inadvertently published prior to the requested publication date, as stated in an Office of the Federal Register correction notice published at 73 FR 24496, May 2, 2008. FR Doc. E8-9572 is being republished in its entirety in this issue of the **Federal Register**.

**AGENCY:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of Proposed Tiered Rate Methodology.

**SUMMARY:** BPA is proposing to adopt a new tiered rate design for setting its Priority Firm Power (PF) rates beginning with the FY 2012-2013 rate period. The primary feature of this Tiered Rate Methodology (TRM) proposal is one rate tier (Tier 1) based on generation output and costs attributed to BPA's current Federal base system resources and a second rate tier (Tier 2) based on the generation and costs associated with newly acquired resources.

The TRM is part of BPA's effort to achieve the overall policy objectives of the Long-Term Regional Dialogue Policy (Policy). Under this Policy, BPA will offer 20-year Regional Dialogue Contracts to its Federal agency and public utility customers for power priced at a tiered PF rate. The TRM is intended to provide customers with a

predictable and durable means by which to calculate BPA's PF tiered rate for the term of these contracts.

Determinations of specific rate levels applicable to these contracts will not be established in this proceeding. Rather the specific rate levels will be developed consistent with the TRM in the respective Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (Northwest Power Act) section 7(i) rate proceedings during the term of this TRM. BPA intends to set the actual power rates on a two-year cycle throughout the term of the Regional Dialogue contracts beginning with the FY 2012-2013 rate period.

BPA is commencing this proceeding under section 7 of the Northwest Power Act to establish the TRM. Entities wishing to become a formal party to the proceeding must file a petition to intervene, notifying BPA in writing of their intention to do so in conformance with the requirements stated in this Notice.

**DATES:** Petitions to intervene must be received no later than 5 p.m., Pacific Daylight Time (PDT), on May 7, 2008. Proposed hearing dates are supplied in **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**, Part I.A. below. Non-party participants may make written comments between May 2, 2008, and July 10, 2008. Comments must be received by 5 p.m., PDT, on July 10, 2008, in order to be considered in the Record of Decision.

**ADDRESSES:** Petitions to intervene should be directed to Camille Blakely, Hearing Clerk, LP-7, Bonneville Power Administration, 905 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232 or by e-mail to: [trm12rate@bpa.gov](mailto:trm12rate@bpa.gov), and must be received no later than 5 p.m., PDT, on May 7, 2008. In addition, a copy of the petition must be served concurrently on BPA's General Counsel directed to Peter J. Burger, LP-7, Office of General Counsel, Bonneville Power Administration, 905 NE 11th Avenue, Portland, OR 97232 or by e-mail to: [pjburger@bpa.gov](mailto:pjburger@bpa.gov). (See Part III (A) for more information.) Written comments can be submitted online at BPA's Web site <http://www.bpa.gov/comment>, or by mail to: BPA Public Affairs, DKE-7, P.O. Box 14428, Portland, OR 97293-4428. Please identify written or electronic comments as "TRM-12 Proceeding" comments. Documents will be available for public viewing after May 9, 2008. The documents are available at: <http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/ratecase>, or at BPA's Public Information Center, BPA Headquarters Building, 1st Floor; 905 NE. 11th, Portland, Oregon, and will be provided to parties on a compact disk (CD) at the prehearing conference to be

held on May 9, 2008, beginning at 1:30 p.m., Room 223, 911 NE. 11th, Portland, Oregon. Due to increased security requirements, attendees should allow additional time to enter the building and complete the required screening process. Photo identification will be required for entry.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Nita Burbank, Lead Public Affairs Specialist, Power Policy Development, PFP-6, P.O. Box 3621, Portland, OR 97208. Interested persons may also call 503-230-3458 or 1-800-622-4519 (toll-free).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Table of Contents**

Part I. Introduction and Procedural Background  
Part II. Policy Guidance and Scope of Hearing  
Part III. Public Participation  
Part IV. The Tiered Rates Methodology

#### **Part I—Introduction and Procedural Background**

Section 7(i) of the Northwest Power Act, 16 U.S.C. section 839e(i), requires that BPA's rates be established according to certain procedures. These procedures include, among other things: Publication of a notice of the proposed rates in the **Federal Register**; one or more hearings conducted as expeditiously as practicable by a Hearing Officer; public opportunity to provide both oral and written views related to the proposed rates; opportunity to offer refutation or rebuttal of submitted material; and a decision by the Administrator based on the record. This proceeding is governed by section 1010 of BPA's Rules of Procedure Governing Rate Hearings, 51 FR 7611 (1986) (BPA Hearing Procedures). These procedures implement the statutory section 7(i) requirements.

Section 1010.7 of the BPA Hearing Procedures prohibits *ex parte* communications. The *ex parte* rule applies to all BPA and DOE employees and contractors. Except as provided below, any outside communications with BPA and/or DOE personnel regarding BPA's rate case by other Executive Branch agencies, Congress, existing or potential BPA customers (including tribes), and nonprofit or public interest groups are considered outside communications and are subject to the *ex parte* rule. The general rule does not apply to communications relating to: (1) Matters of procedure only (the status of the rate case, for example); (2) exchanges of data in the course of business or under the Freedom of Information Act; (3) requests for factual information; (4) matters BPA is