

[FR Doc. 02-16918 Filed 7-5-02; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION****Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests****AGENCY:** Department of Education.**SUMMARY:** The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 6, 2002.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) title; (3) summary of the collection; (4) description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) reporting and/or recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. 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.

Dated: July 1, 2002.

**John Tressler,***Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.***Office of Educational Research and Improvement***Type of Review:* New.*Title:* Preschool Curricula Evaluation Research (PCER) Program.*Frequency:* Semi-Annually.*Affected Public:* Individuals or household.*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:**Responses:* 7,217.*Burden Hours:* 5,281.

*Abstract:* The primary objective of the PCER Program is to evaluate the effectiveness of selected preschool curricula on child development outcomes such as language skill, pre-reading and pre-math abilities, cognition, general knowledge, and social competence. Although there is a need for preschool programs to enhance their instructional content, there is weak evidence regarding the effectiveness of classroom curricula. These data will provide critical data to allow government agencies to recommend and preschool providers to choose among the array of available curricula. The respondents include children, teachers and parents.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2078. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address [vivian\\_reese@ed.gov](mailto:vivian_reese@ed.gov). Requests may also be electronically mailed to the Internet address [OCIO\\_RIMG@ed.gov](mailto:OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov) or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at her Internet address [Kathy.Axt@ed.gov](mailto:Kathy.Axt@ed.gov). Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 02-16924 Filed 7-5-02; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION****Intent to Compromise Claim Against the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Department of Education****AGENCY:** Department of Education.**ACTION:** Notice of intent to compromise claim with request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Education (Department) intends to compromise a claim against the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Department of Education (PRDE) now pending before the Office of Administrative Law Judges (OALJ), Docket No. 97-52-R. Before compromising a claim, the Department must publish its intent to do so in the **Federal Register** and provide the public an opportunity to comment on that action (20 U.S.C. 1234a(j)).

**DATES:** We must receive your comments on the proposed action on or before August 19, 2002.**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be addressed to Kay Rigling, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 6E312, Washington, DC 20202-2110.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kay Rigling, Esq., Telephone 202-401-8292. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8399.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Invitation to Comment**

We invite you to submit comments regarding this proposed action. During and after the comment period, you may inspect all public comments in room 6E312, FB-6, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday of each week except Federal holidays.

**Assistance to Individuals With Disabilities in Reviewing Comments**

On request, we will supply an appropriate aid, such as a reader or print magnifier, to an individual with a disability who needs assistance to review the comments. If you want to schedule an appointment for this type of aid, please contact the person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

## Background

The claim in question arose when the Department's Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education (Assistant Secretary) issued a program determination letter (PDL) on March 26, 1997. The PDL demanded a refund of \$1,846,718 of funds provided to the PRDE for school years 1991-92 and 1992-93 under Chapter 1 of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.* (1988)). Specifically, the Assistant Secretary found that the PRDE had used Chapter 1 funds to assess the educational needs of all public and private school children in violation of statutory and regulatory requirements that permitted the use of those funds only for programs designed to meet the special educational needs of low-achieving children. Accordingly, the Assistant Secretary disallowed the percent of the total assessment contract costs for 1991-92 and 1992-93 attributable to non-Chapter 1 students.

The PRDE filed a timely appeal with the OALJ. In response to a motion for partial summary judgment filed by the PRDE, the OALJ held that \$1,017,440 of the Assistant Secretary's claim was barred from recovery by the statute of limitations in 20 U.S.C. 1234a(k). As a result, \$829,278, representing costs incurred in school year 1992-93, remains at issue. The Administrative Law Judge assigned to the appeal granted the parties' joint motion to stay proceedings pending settlement negotiations.

During settlement discussions, the PRDE submitted substantial documentation to demonstrate that additional assessment costs were allowable Chapter 1 costs. For example, the PRDE demonstrated that certain fixed costs for in-service workshops and the preparation of required reports were necessary to meet Chapter 1 requirements, irrespective of the number of students assessed. Moreover, the PRDE demonstrated that it had properly assessed additional students no longer receiving Chapter 1 services in order to meet certain Chapter 1 requirements. After conducting a thorough review of this documentation, the Assistant Secretary has decided to accept the PRDE's documentation and withdraw \$414,733 from the remaining claim, thereby reducing the claim to \$414,545.

The Department proposes to compromise this remaining claim to \$214,545. Based on litigation risks and costs of proceeding through the administrative and, possibly, court process for this appeal, the Department

has determined that it would not be practical or in the public interest to continue this proceeding. In addition, in light of subsequent changes in the Chapter 1/Title I assessment requirements that permit testing all students, there is little or no likelihood of a recurrence of this problem. As a result, under the authority in 20 U.S.C. 1234a(j), the Department has determined that compromise of this claim for \$214,545 is appropriate.

The public is invited to comment on the Department's intent to compromise this claim. Additional information may be obtained by calling or writing to Kay Rigling, Esq. at the telephone number and address listed at the beginning of this notice.

## Electronic Access to This Document

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

You may also view this document in text or PDF at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov>.

**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.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

**Program Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 1234a(j).

Dated: July 2, 2002.

**Jack Martin,**  
Chief Financial Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-16958 Filed 7-5-02; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Disposal of Immobilized Low-Activity Wastes From Hanford Tank Waste Processing

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement (Supplemental EIS) to

the Tank Waste Remediation System, Hanford Site, Richland, Washington, Final Environmental Impact Statement (TWRS EIS, DOE/EIS-0189, August 1996). The TWRS EIS evaluated alternatives for the disposal of mixed, radioactive, and hazardous waste stored or projected to be stored in 177 underground storage tanks and approximately 60 active and inactive miscellaneous underground storage tanks associated with the Hanford Site's tank farm operations. The TWRS EIS also evaluated alternatives for the management and disposal of approximately 1,930 cesium and strontium capsules stored at the Hanford Site. This EIS included analyses of on-site disposal of immobilized (vitrified) low-activity waste resulting from chemical separation of the Hanford tank wastes. In its Record of Decision (62 FR 8693, February 1997), DOE decided on the Phased Implementation Alternative, to chemically separate and vitrify high-level and low-activity wastes retrieved from the tanks. In Phase I, the immobilized low-activity waste would be placed in near-surface, retrievable disposal vaults on-site. DOE is now reconsidering the type of disposal facility for the immobilized low-activity waste, the location of this disposal facility on the Site, and the physical form of the vitrified low-activity waste product. Accordingly, DOE invites public comment on the scope of the Supplemental EIS that would evaluate potential changes in the Department's plans.

**DATES:** The public scoping period begins with the publication of this Notice and extends through August 26, 2002. DOE invites all interested parties to submit written comments or suggestions during the scoping period. Written comments must be postmarked by August 26, 2002 and submitted to the DOE document manager (see **ADDRESSES** below). Comments postmarked after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

Oral and written comments will be received at a public scoping meeting to be held on the date and at the location given below: Richland, Washington, August 20, 2002, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Red Lion Hanford House, Benton-Franklin Room, 802 George Washington Way, Richland, WA 99352.

For further information, see Public Scoping Meetings under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** below.

**ADDRESSES:** Address comments on the scope of the Supplemental EIS to the DOE Document Manager: Ms. Gae M. Neath, U.S. Department of Energy, Post