

Dear Secretary Abraham: The Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (Board) has been following closely the Department of Energy's (DOE) response to recently discovered leaks in Tank 6, a high-level waste (HLW) storage tank at the Savannah River Site (SRS). While this issue must be addressed on a specific basis, it is only a symptom of a much larger problem—the critical shortage of tank space in the HLW system—that threatens to delay stabilization of nuclear materials at SRS and may result in suspending vitrification of HLW at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). Furthermore, this problem has led to a reduced margin of safety and a short-sighted emphasis on solving immediate problems at the expense of investing in comprehensive efforts to enhance the safety and flexibility of the HLW system.

As a result, the Board, on March 23, 2001, unanimously approved Recommendation 2001-1, High-Level Waste Management at the Savannah River Site, which is enclosed for your consideration. After your receipt of this recommendation and as required by 42 U.S.C. 2286d(a), the Board will promptly make it available to the public in DOE's regional public reading rooms. The Board has confirmed with DOE that the recommendation contains no information that is classified or otherwise restricted. Providing this recommendation does not include information restricted by DOE under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, 42 U.S.C. 2161-68, as amended, please arrange to have it promptly placed on file in your regional public reading rooms. The Board will also publish this recommendation in the **Federal Register**.

Sincerely,

John T. Conway,
Chairman.

[FR Doc. 01-8064 Filed 4-2-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting 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 June 4, 2001.

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 Acting 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: March 28, 2001.

Joe Schubart,

Acting Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of the Undersecretary

Type of Review: New.

Title: Evaluation of Title I Accountability Systems and School Improvement Efforts.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Federal Government.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 5,140.

Burden Hours: 2,570.

Abstract: The purpose of the Evaluation of Title I Accountability Systems and School Improvement Efforts (TASSIE) is to examine and evaluate Title I accountability systems and school improvement efforts in a nationally representative sample of districts and schools. This project addresses both the implementation and effectiveness of accountability practices

in 2,200 districts and 740 schools. The TASSIE will provide data on the extent of alignment between Title I accountability systems and states' and districts' own accountability systems, the assistance and incentives provided to school identified as in need of improvement, and will assess the impact of these policies and practices on schools, teachers, and students.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@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 the collection activity requirements should be directed to Jacqueline Montague at (202) 708-5359 or via her internet address Jackie_Montague@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. 01-8083 Filed 4-2-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: An emergency review has been requested in accordance with the Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 3507 (j)), since public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed. Approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has been requested by March 30, 2001. A regular clearance process is also beginning. Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 4, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the emergency review should be addressed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs,

Attention: Lauren Wittenberg, Desk Officer: Department of Education, Office of Management and Budget; 725 17th Street, NW., Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or should be electronically mailed to the internet address Lauren_Wittenberg@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Director of OMB provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Office of Management and Budget (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 Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the information collection. 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. ED 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 respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: March 28, 2001.

Joe Schubart,

Acting Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Type of Review: New.

Title: Even Start Letter on State Program Quality Indicators' Deadline.

Abstract: The letter reminds States of the statutory deadline of June 30, 2001 for submission of their program quality indicators for the Even Start Family Literacy Program (Part B of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 196), to qualify States for funding for Fiscal Year 2001.

Additional Information: The Department of Education is requesting emergency processing for the Even Start Letter on State Program Quality Indicators' Deadline due to an unanticipated event and statutory deadline. The Literacy Involves Families Together (LIFT) Act that was recently enacted on December 21, 2000 (Pub. L. 106-554) established a deadline of June 30, 2001 for States to submit program quality indicators to the Department of Education. Any State failing to submit these program quality indicators by that deadline will not qualify for Even Start funding for Fiscal Year 2001. Based upon the recent imposition of this legislative deadline, and the public harm that will occur if States fail to meet the deadline and lose their Even Start funding for Fiscal Year 2001, the Department is requesting that the emergency notice for the Even Start State Indicators of Program Quality Letter be published by March 30, 2001. This allows the Department to receive immediate approval from OMB in order for States to meet their statutory deadline.

Frequency: On Occasion.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 52.

Burden Hours: 26.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651, or should be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov, or should be faxed to 202-708-9346.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements, contact Kathy Axt at her internet address 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. 01-8084 Filed 4-2-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Commission on Fire Safety and Preparedness

AGENCY: Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice announces a public meeting of the DOE Commission on Fire Safety and Preparedness. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), requires that public notice of the meetings be announced in the **Federal Register**.

DATES: Monday, April 23, 2001, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

ADDRESSES: Sheraton Augusta Hotel, 2651 Perimeter Parkway, Augusta, Georgia, 30909. (Tel.: 706-855-8100).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Frank Russo, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, telephone number 301-903-1845, email: frank.russo@eh.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: *Purpose of the Meeting:* The Fire Safety and Preparedness Commission is tasked with providing advice to the Secretary of Energy on the state of DOE fire protection programs and to provide guidance, advice and information on the readiness of the complex from the threat of wildland and facility fires.

The purpose of this second public meeting of the Commission is to provide members with an opportunity to obtain additional information from representatives of the Lead Program Secretarial Offices on the breadth of DOE missions, their associated fire hazards, existing fire prevention and protection measures, and the capabilities of site emergency services organizations. Additionally, the Commission will be provided a perspective on DOE fire safety from a representative of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB). The staff of the DOE Office of Environment, Safety and Health will provide a briefing on pending (fire protection) policy initiatives and oversight activities. Recent activities by the four Commission subcommittees will be reviewed.

Tentative Agenda

The Environmental Management Fire Protection Program
The Office of Science Fire Protection Program
Fire Protection for Defense Programs
The DNFSB Perspective on DOE Fire Safety
Pending Fire Safety Policy Initiatives
Wildland Fire Safety Implementation Plans