

approximately 700 to 3,000 m in the central GOA. Thus, NMFS does not expect there to be the reasonable potential for take of Rice's whale in association with this survey and, accordingly, does not authorize take of Rice's whale through the LOA.

Based on the results of our analysis, NMFS has determined that the level of taking expected for this survey and authorized through the LOA is consistent with the findings made for the total taking allowable under the regulations. See table 1 in this notice and table 6 of the rule (89 FR 31488, April 24, 2024).

Small Numbers Determination

Under the rule, NMFS may not authorize incidental take of marine mammals in an LOA if it will exceed "small numbers." In short, when an acceptable estimate of the individual marine mammals taken is available, if

the estimated number of individual animals taken is up to, but not greater than, one-third of the best available abundance estimate, NMFS will determine that the numbers of marine mammals taken of a species or stock are small (see 89 FR 31535, May 24, 2024). For more information please see NMFS' discussion of small numbers in the 2021 final rule (86 FR 5438, January 19, 2021).

The take numbers for authorization are determined as described above. Subsequently, the total incidents of harassment for each species are multiplied by scalar ratios to produce a derived product that better reflects the number of individuals likely to be taken within a survey (as compared to the total number of instances of take), accounting for the likelihood that some individual marine mammals may be taken on more than 1 day (see 86 FR 5404, January 19, 2021). The output of

this scaling, where appropriate, is incorporated into adjusted total take estimates that are the basis for NMFS' small numbers determinations, as depicted in table 1.

This product is used by NMFS in making the necessary small numbers determinations through comparison with the best available abundance estimates (see discussion at 86 FR 5391, January 19, 2021). For this comparison, NMFS' approach is to use the maximum theoretical population, determined through review of current stock assessment reports (SAR; <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/marine-mammal-stock-assessments>) and model-predicted abundance information (<https://seamap.env.duke.edu/models/Duke/GOM/>). Information supporting the small numbers determinations is provided in table 1.

TABLE 1—TAKE ANALYSIS

Species	Authorized take	Scaled take ¹	Abundance ²	Percent abundance
Rice's whale	0	n/a	51	0
Sperm whale	402	170	2,451	6.9
<i>Kogia spp.</i>	³ 167	50	1,385	4.4
Beaked whales	709	72	1,038	6.9
Rough-toothed dolphin	1,257	361	4,853	7.4
Bottlenose dolphin	1,152	331	166,538	0.2
Clymene dolphin	385	111	6,136	1.8
Atlantic spotted dolphin	367	105	21,506	0.5
Pantropical spotted dolphin	12,569	3607	50,209	7.2
Spinner dolphin	245	70	2,991	2.3
Striped dolphin	1,253	360	16,102	2.2
Fraser's dolphin	490	141	1,665	8.4
Risso's dolphin	359	106	1,974	5.4
Blackfish ⁴	1,611	475	9,535	5.0
Short-finned pilot whale	332	98	3,277	3.0

¹ Scalar ratios were applied to "Authorized Take" values as described at 86 FR 5322 and 86 FR 5404 (January 19, 2021) to derive scaled take numbers shown here.

² Best abundance estimate. For most taxa, the best abundance estimate for purposes of comparison with take estimates is considered here to be the model-predicted abundance (Garrison *et al.*, 2023). For Rice's whale, Atlantic spotted dolphin, spinner dolphin, and Risso's dolphin, the SAR abundance estimate is used.

³ Includes 11 takes by Level A harassment and 156 takes by Level B harassment. Scalar ratio is applied to takes by Level B harassment only; small numbers determination made on basis of scaled Level B harassment take plus authorized Level A harassment take.

⁴ The "blackfish" guild includes melon-headed whales, false killer whales, pygmy killer whales, and killer whales.

Based on the analysis contained herein of WesternGeco's proposed survey activity described in its LOA application, as subsequently modified by WesternGeco, and the anticipated take of marine mammals, NMFS finds that small numbers of marine mammals will be taken relative to the affected species or stock sizes (*i.e.*, less than one-third of the best available abundance estimate) and therefore the taking is of no more than small numbers.

Authorization

NMFS has determined that the level of taking for this LOA request is consistent with the findings made for

the total taking allowable under the incidental take regulations and that the amount of take authorized under the LOA is of no more than small numbers. Accordingly, we have issued a modification to the LOA to WesternGeco authorizing the take of marine mammals incidental to its geophysical survey activity, as described above.

Dated: April 24, 2025.

Catherine Marzin,

*Acting Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2025-07442 Filed 4-29-25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board

Committee and Quarterly Board Meetings

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of open and closed meetings.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the agenda, time, and instructions to access the National Assessment Governing Board's (hereafter referred to as the

Board or Governing Board) standing committee meetings and quarterly Governing Board meeting. This notice provides information to members of the public who may be interested in attending the meetings and/or providing written comments related to the work of the Governing Board. The meetings will be held in person and virtually for Board members. Members of the public may attend virtually and must register in advance to attend, as noted below. A registration link will be posted on the Governing Board's website, www.nagb.gov, five (5) business days prior to each meeting.

DATES: The Quarterly Board Meeting will be held on the following dates:

- May 15, 2025, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., ET
- May 16, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., ET

ADDRESSES: Lyndon Baines Johnson (LBJ) Department of Education Building, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Angela Scott, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Governing Board, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202, telephone: (202) 245-6234, email: Angela.Scott@ed.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Statutory Authority and Function: The Governing Board is established under the National Assessment of Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9621). Information on the Governing Board and its work can be found at www.nagb.gov. Notice of the meetings is required under section 1009(a)(2) of 5 U.S.C. chapter 10 (commonly known as the Federal Advisory Committee Act). The Governing Board formulates policy for the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) administered by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). The Governing Board's responsibilities include:

(1) selecting the subject areas to be assessed; (2) developing appropriate student achievement levels; (3) developing assessment objectives and testing specifications that produce an assessment that is valid and reliable, and are based on relevant widely accepted professional standards; (4) developing a process for review of the assessment which includes the active participation of teachers, curriculum specialists, local school administrators, parents, and concerned members of the public; (5) designing the methodology of the assessment to ensure that assessment items are valid and reliable, in consultation with appropriate technical experts in measurement and

assessment, content and subject matter, sampling, and other technical experts who engage in large scale surveys; (6) measuring student academic achievement in grades 4, 8, and 12 in the authorized academic subjects; (7) developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results; (8) developing standards and procedures for regional and national comparisons; (9) taking appropriate actions needed to improve the form, content use, and reporting of results of an assessment; and (10) planning and executing the initial public release of NAEP results.

Standing Committee Meetings

The Governing Board's standing committees will meet to conduct regularly scheduled work. Standing committee meeting agendas and meeting materials will be posted on the Governing Board's website, www.nagb.gov, no later than five (5) business days prior to the meetings. Minutes of prior standing committee meetings are available at <https://www.nagb.gov/governing-board/quarterly-board-meetings.html>.

Standing Committee Meetings

Friday, May 9, 2025

Reporting and Dissemination Committee (Virtual)

2:45 p.m.–4:15 p.m. (ET), Open Session

The Reporting and Dissemination Committee will meet on Friday, May 9, 2025, in open session from 2:45 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. The committee will receive an update on Strategic Communications and discuss the release plan for the 2024 NAEP Science results.

Thursday, May 15, 2025

Executive Committee (Hybrid)

8 a.m.–9 a.m. (ET), Closed Session

The Executive Committee will meet in closed session on Thursday, May 15, 2025, from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. to receive updates from the Executive Director on Board priorities and key activities and discuss the NAEP budget and contracts. The session must be closed to the public because the discussions pertain to the federal budget and acquisition process. Public disclosure of this confidential information would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Friday, May 16, 2025

Assessment Development Committee (Hybrid)

9 a.m.–11:30 a.m. (ET), Closed Session

The Assessment Development Committee will meet in closed session on Friday, May 16, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to review items for the 2026 Reading and Mathematics assessment. This review must be conducted in closed session because the content includes assessment items that have not been released to the public. Public disclosure of this information would significantly impede the implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology (Hybrid)

9 a.m.–9:05 a.m. (ET), Open Session

9:05 a.m.–10:15 a.m. (ET), Closed Session

10:15 a.m.–11 a.m. (ET), Open Session

The Committee on Standards, Design and Methodology will meet on Friday, May 16, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The committee chair will open the meeting and provide updates from 9 a.m. to 9:05 a.m. The committee will meet in closed session from 9:05 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. to receive information and discuss the NAEP Bridge Studies: Science and Grade 12. This session must be closed because the data has not been shared with the public. Disclosure of this confidential information would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b. The committee will transition to open session, which will be held from 10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m. to receive updates and provide feedback on methodology for updating Reporting Achievement Level Descriptions.

Quarterly Governing Board Meeting

The plenary sessions of the Governing Board's May 2025 quarterly meeting will be held on the following dates and times:

Thursday, May 15, 2025

9:05 a.m.–6 p.m. (ET) (Hybrid Meeting)

9:05 a.m.–10:45 a.m. (ET), Open Session

10:45 a.m.–5 p.m. (ET), Closed Session

5 p.m.–6 p.m. (ET) Open Session

On Thursday, May 15, 2025, the plenary session of the quarterly

Governing Board meeting will convene in open session from 9:05 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., in closed session from 10:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., and in open session from 5–6 p.m. From 9:05 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., Beverly Perdue, Chair of the Governing Board, will welcome members, make remarks, review and approve the May 15–16, 2025, quarterly Governing Board meeting agenda, and approve the minutes from the March 6, 2025, Governing Board meeting.

From 9:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Lesley Muldoon, Governing Board Executive Director, will provide updates on the Board's work and priorities. Representatives from the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and the Council of the Great City Schools will discuss the work of the task forces the Board leads jointly with them—State Policy Task Force and Trial Urban District Assessment (TUDA) Task Force respectively—from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Following a fifteen-minute transitional break, the Board will meet in closed session from 10:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. to receive an update on the NAEP Budget and Contracting from IES Director, Matt Soldner, and NCES Director for Strategic Partnerships, Gina Broxterman. The Board will continue in closed session from 12:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., to discuss the NAEP Budget and Contracting. From 3:45 p.m. to 5 p.m. the Board will receive an embargoed briefing on the 2024 NAEP Science Results. These sessions must be closed because they will include information on the budget and the federal acquisition process and embargoed assessment results, both of which cannot be released to the public at this time. Public disclosure of this confidential information would significantly impede implementation of the NAEP assessment program if conducted in open session. Such matters are protected by exemption 9(B) of the Government Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b.

Following a short transitional break, the Board will convene in open session from 5:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. to discuss topics of interest raised by members. From 5:45 p.m. to 6 p.m., the Board will discuss and take action on the release plan for 2024 NAEP Science. The Thursday, May 15, 2024, session of the Governing Board meeting will adjourn at 6 p.m.

Instructions for Accessing and Attending the Meetings

Registration: Members of the public may attend the May 15–16, 2024, meetings of the full Governing Board and standing committee meetings virtually. A link to the final meeting

agenda and information on how to register for virtual attendance for the open sessions will be posted on the Governing Board's website, www.nagb.gov, no later than five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Registration is required to join the meeting virtually.

Public Comment: Written comments related to the work of the Governing Board and its standing committees may be submitted to the attention of the DFO, either via email to Angela.Scott@ed.gov or in hard copy to the address listed above. Written comments related to the May 15–16, 2025 Governing Board meeting should be submitted no later than close of business on May 8, 2025, and should reference the relevant agenda item.

Access to Records of the Meeting: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 1009, the public may inspect the meeting materials and other Governing Board records at 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20202, by emailing Angela.Scott@ed.gov to schedule an appointment. The official verbatim transcripts of the open meeting sessions will be available for public inspection no later than 30 calendar days following each meeting. Requests for the verbatim transcripts may be made via email to the DFO.

Reasonable Accommodations: The meeting location is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the DFO listed in this notice by close of business on May 8, 2025.

Electronic Access to this Document: The official version of this document is published in the **Federal Register**. Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available via the Federal Digital System at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys. At this site you can 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). To use PDF, you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the Adobe website. You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at: www.federalregister.gov. Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

Authority: Pub. L. 107–279, title III, section 301—National Assessment of

Educational Progress Authorization Act (20 U.S.C. 9621).

Lesley Muldoon,

Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB), U.S. Department of Education.

[FR Doc. 2025–07481 Filed 4–29–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Combined Notice of Filings

Take notice that the Commission has received the following Natural Gas Pipeline Rate and Refund Report filings:

Filings in Existing Proceedings

Docket Numbers: PR19–9–001.

Applicants: Lobo Pipeline Company LLC.

Description: Compliance filing 2025 to be effective N/A.

Filed Date: 4/23/25.

Accession Number: 20250423–5256.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 5/14/25.

Docket Numbers: PR20–52–002.

Applicants: ETC Katy Pipeline, Ltd.

Description: ETC Katy Pipeline, LLC submits tariff filing per 284.123(b)(1)/.: Compliance filing 2025 to be effective N/A.

Filed Date: 4/23/25.

Accession Number: 20250423–5251.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 5/14/25.

Docket Numbers: PR25–35–001.

Applicants: Liberty Utilities

(Midstates Natural Gas) Corp.

Description: § 284.123 Rate Filing: Supplement Filing—Revised Statement of Rates (PR25–35–) to be effective 1/8/2025.

Filed Date: 4/23/25.

Accession Number: 20250423–5144.

Comment Date: 5 p.m. ET 5/7/25.

Any person desiring to protest in any the above proceedings must file in accordance with Rule 211 of the Commission's Regulations (18 CFR 385.211) on or before 5:00 p.m. Eastern time on the specified comment date.

The filings are accessible in the Commission's eLibrary system (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/search/fercgensearch.asp>) by querying the docket number.

eFiling is encouraged. More detailed information relating to filing requirements, interventions, protests, service, and qualifying facilities filings can be found at: <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling/filing-req.pdf>. For other information, call (866) 208–3676 (toll free). For TTY, call (202) 502–8659.