

(84 FR 3768) and available at [www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-13/pdf/2019-02206.pdf](http://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2019-02-13/pdf/2019-02206.pdf).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For the contact person associated with a particular research competition, please refer to the chart in the NIA, available at [www.govinfo.gov/app/details/FR-2021-06-10/2021-12173](http://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/FR-2021-06-10/2021-12173), as well as in the relevant Request for Application (available at <https://ies.ed.gov/funding/>) and application package.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) or a text telephone (TTY), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll-free, at 1-800-877-8339.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** On June 10, 2021, we published in the **Federal Register** (86 FR 30921) the NIA for the Education Research and Special Education Research Programs. We are reopening the affected competitions until September 30, 2021, to allow affected applicants more time to prepare and submit their applications.

### Eligibility

The reopening applies to eligible applicants under the affected competitions—ALNs 84.305A, 84.305B, 84.305R, and 84.324X-2—that are affected applicants. Eligibility requirements for applicants for the affected competitions are specified in the NIA. The federally declared major disaster areas under these declarations are the jurisdictions identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency under declarations DR-4609-TN, DR-4610-CA, DR-4611-LA, DR-4614-NJ, and DR-4615-NY in which assistance to individuals or public assistance has been authorized. To determine if you are an affected applicant, see the Emergency Declarations available at: [www.fema.gov/disaster/4609](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4609), [www.fema.gov/disaster/4610](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4610), [www.fema.gov/disaster/4611](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4611), [www.fema.gov/disaster/4614](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4614), and [www.fema.gov/disaster/4615](http://www.fema.gov/disaster/4615).

To qualify as an affected applicant, the applicant must either have a mailing address that is located in a jurisdiction that is part of one of the applicable federally declared disaster areas or provide a certification in its application that it or its planned subawardees and contractors identified in the application are located in one of these areas. Affected applicants must also provide appropriate supporting documentation, if requested.

We are not reopening the application period for all applicants. Therefore, we will reject any application submitted as part of this reopened application

submission period from applicants that are not affected applicants.

**Note:** All information in the NIA for this competition remains the same, except for the deadline date for the transmittal of applications for affected applicants.

**Program Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 9501 *et seq.* and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 117-2) Sec. 2010.

**Accessible Format:** On request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, individuals with disabilities can obtain this document, the Request for Application, and a copy of the application package in an accessible format. The Department will provide the requestor with an accessible format that may include Rich Text Format (RTF) or text format (txt), a thumb drive, an MP3 file, braille, large print, audiotape, or compact disc, or other accessible format.

**Electronic Access to This Document:** The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. You may access the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations at [www.govinfo.gov](http://www.govinfo.gov). 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 Portable Document Format (PDF). To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at the site.

You may also access documents of the Department published in the **Federal Register** by using the article search feature at [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov). Specifically, through the advanced search feature at this site, you can limit your search to documents published by the Department.

**Mark Schneider,**

*Director, Institute of Education Sciences.*

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**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Agency Information Collection Extension

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy.

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

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE), pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, intends to extend for three years, an information collection request with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

**DATES:** Comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before November 15, 2021. If you anticipate any difficulty in

submitting comments within that period, contact the person listed below as soon as possible.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments may be sent to John Harris, Office of Policy, Contract and Financial Assistance Policy Division, Office of Acquisition Management, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20585-1615, by email to [John.Harris@hq.doe.gov](mailto:John.Harris@hq.doe.gov); Mr. Harris may be contacted at (202) 287-1471.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Harris, (202) 287-1471, [John.Harris@hq.doe.gov](mailto:John.Harris@hq.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the extended 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 collection of information, 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 collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

This information collection request contains:

(1) *OMB No.:* 1910-4100;  
(2) *Information Collection Request Titled:* Procurement Requirements;  
(3) *Type of Review:* Renewal;  
(4) *Purpose:* The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR); Title 48 Federal Acquisition Regulations System; Chapter 9 Department of Energy (DOE); Subchapter H Clauses and Forms; Part 952—Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses; and Subchapter I Agency Supplementary Regulations; Part 970 DOE Management and Operating Contracts; Section 970.52 Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses for Management and Operating Contracts; requires DOE to collect certain types of information from those seeking to do business with the Department or those awarded contracts by the Department. This package contains information collections necessary for the solicitation, award, administration, and closeout of procurement contracts.

(5) *Annual Estimated Number of Respondents:* 7,387;

(6) *Annual Estimated Number of Total Responses:* 7,387;

(7) *Annual Estimated Number of Burden Hours:* 666,082;

(8) *Annual Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden*: \$58,115,655.

*Statutory Authority*: 42 U.S.C. 2201.

### Signing Authority

This document of the Department of Energy was signed on August 26, 2021, by John R. Bashista, Director, Office of Acquisition Management and Senior Procurement Executive, pursuant to delegated authority from the Secretary of Energy. That document with the original signature and date is maintained by DOE. For administrative purposes only, and in compliance with requirements of the Office of the Federal Register, the undersigned DOE Federal Register Liaison Officer has been authorized to sign and submit the document in electronic format for publication, as an official document of the Department of Energy. This administrative process in no way alters the legal effect of this document upon publication in the **Federal Register**.

Signed in Washington, DC, on September 8, 2021.

**Treena V. Garrett,**

*Federal Register Liaison Officer, U.S. Department of Energy.*

[FR Doc. 2021-19731 Filed 9-13-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6450-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

### Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. IC21-26-000]

#### Commission Information Collection Activities (Ferc-725b) Comment Request; Extension

**AGENCY:** Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, FERC-725B, (Mandatory Reliability Standards, Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP), which will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review.

**DATES:** Comments on the collection of information are due October 14, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments on FERC-725B to OMB through [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Attention: Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission Desk Officer. Please identify the OMB Control Number (1902-0248) in the subject line of your comments. Comments should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain).

Please submit copies of your comments to the Commission. You may submit copies of your comments (identified by Docket No. IC21-26-000) by one of the following methods:

Electronic filing through <http://www.ferc.gov>, is preferred.

- **Electronic Filing:** Documents must be filed in acceptable native applications and print-to-PDF, but not in scanned or picture format.

- For those unable to file electronically, comments may be filed by USPS mail or by hand (including courier) delivery.

- **Mail via U.S. Postal Service Only:**

Addressed to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street NE, Washington, DC 20426.

- **Hand (including courier) Delivery:**

Deliver to: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 12225 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852.

**Instructions:** OMB submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Using the search function under the "Currently Under Review" field, select Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; click "submit," and select "comment" to the right of the subject collection.

**FERC submissions** must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: <http://www.ferc.gov>. For user assistance, contact FERC Online Support by email at [ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov](mailto:ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov), or by phone at: (866) 208-3676 (toll-free).

**Docket:** Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at <https://www.ferc.gov/ferc-online/overview>.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ellen Brown may be reached by email at [DataClearance@FERC.gov](mailto:DataClearance@FERC.gov), telephone at (202) 502-8663.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Title:** FERC-725B (Mandatory Reliability Standards, Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP)).

**OMB Control No.:** 1902-0248.

**Type of Request:** Three-year extension of the FERC-725B information collection requirements with no changes to the reporting requirements.

**Abstract:** On August 8, 2005, Congress enacted the Energy Policy Act of 2005.<sup>1</sup> The Energy Policy Act of 2005 added a new section 215 to the FPA,<sup>2</sup> which requires a Commission-certified Electric Reliability Organization to develop mandatory and enforceable Reliability Standards,<sup>3</sup> including requirements for cybersecurity protection, which are subject to Commission review and approval. Once approved, the Reliability Standards may be enforced by the Electric Reliability Organization subject to Commission oversight, or the Commission can independently enforce Reliability Standards.

On February 3, 2006, the Commission issued Order No. 672,<sup>4</sup> implementing FPA section 215. The Commission subsequently certified NERC as the Electric Reliability Organization. The Reliability Standards developed by NERC become mandatory and enforceable after Commission approval and apply to users, owners, and operators of the Bulk-Power System, as set forth in each Reliability Standard.<sup>5</sup> The CIP Reliability Standards require entities to comply with specific requirements to safeguard critical cyber assets. These standards are results-based and do not specify a technology or method to achieve compliance, instead leaving it up to the entity to decide how best to comply.

On January 18, 2008, the Commission issued Order No. 706,<sup>6</sup> approving the initial eight CIP Reliability Standards, CIP version 1 Standards, submitted by

<sup>1</sup> Energy Policy Act of 2005, Public Law 109-58, sec. 1261 *et seq.*, 119 Stat. 594 (2005).

<sup>2</sup> 16 U.S.C. 824a.

<sup>3</sup> FPA section 215 defines Reliability Standard as a requirement, approved by the Commission, to provide for reliable operation of existing bulk-power system facilities, including cybersecurity protection, and the design of planned additions or modifications to such facilities to the extent necessary to provide for reliable operation of the Bulk-Power System. However, the term does not include any requirement to enlarge such facilities or to construct new transmission capacity or generation capacity. *Id.* at 824(a)(3).

<sup>4</sup> *Rules Concerning Certification of the Elec. Reliability Org.; and Procedures for the Establishment, Approval, and Enft of Elec. Reliability Standards*, Order No. 672, 71 FR 8661 (Feb. 17, 2006), 114 FERC ¶ 61,104, *order on reh'g*, Order No. 672-A, 71 FR 19814 (Apr. 28, 2006), 114 FERC ¶ 61,328 (2006).

<sup>5</sup> NERC uses the term "registered entity" to identify users, owners, and operators of the Bulk-Power System responsible for performing specified reliability functions with respect to NERC Reliability Standards. *See, e.g., Version 4 Critical Infrastructure Protection Reliability Standards*, Order No. 761, 77 FR 24594 (Apr. 25, 2012), 139 FERC ¶ 61,058, at P 46, *order denying clarification and reh'g*, 140 FERC ¶ 61,109 (2012). Within the NERC Reliability Standards are various subsets of entities responsible for performing various specified reliability functions. We collectively refer to these as "entities."

<sup>6</sup> Order No. 706, 122 FERC ¶ 61,040 at P 1.