

1996 Federal Register notice, the Navy will conduct public hearings and receive comments on the draft EIS which addresses the need, alternatives, and environmental impacts of manufacturing containers; loading containers; handling, and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL); transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel loaded containers to a notional repository or centralized interim storage site; and the storage, handling, and transportation of certain radioactive waste associated with naval spent nuclear fuel management. The Department of Energy is a cooperating agency for this draft EIS. The draft EIS is available to the public in reading rooms and designated information locations, as identified in the May 14, 1996 Federal Register notice.

**DATES:** The Navy invites interested agencies, organizations, and the general public to provide comments on the draft EIS. The original 45 day formal comment period commenced on May 17, 1996 and was scheduled to close on July 3, 1996. The Navy is now providing a 60 day public comment period and all comments on the draft EIS are due by July 18, 1996. Oral comments will be accepted at the public hearings to be held at the Times and locations listed in the May 14, 1996 Federal Register notice. The final EIS is scheduled to be available no later than November 30, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Comments should be sent to: Mr. William Knoll of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program of the Department of the Navy, Code NAVSEA 08U, 2531 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22242-5160, Telephone: 703-602-8229.

Dated: May 31, 1996.

M.A. Waters,  
LCDR, JAGC, USN, *Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Research Priorities Plan; Invitation for Public Comment and Notice of Availability of the Proposed Research Priorities Plan: "Building on What We've Learned: Developing Priorities for Education Research"

**SUMMARY:** The Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement is developing a research priorities plan which shall recommend priorities for the investment of the resources of the Office of Educational Research and

Improvement over the next five-, ten-, and fifteen-year periods. The development of this plan is required by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement's authorizing legislation, the "Educational Research, Development, Dissemination, and Improvement Act of 1994." In accordance with 20 U.S.C. 6011(f)(2)(B), the Assistant Secretary has issued a proposed research priorities plan and seeks public comment on the content of the proposed plan.

**DATES:** All comments concerning this proposed plan must be received on or before August 5, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** All comments concerning this proposed plan should be addressed to Judith I. Anderson, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Room 510, Washington, DC 20208-5573.

Comments may also be sent through Internet to (Judith\_Anderson@ed.gov).

#### TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS PROPOSED PLAN AND FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

**CONTACT:** Tammra Gill. Telephone (202) 219-1556. Internet electronic mail address (research\_plan@inet.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 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Background

On March 31, 1994, President Clinton signed Public Law 103-227, which includes Title IX—the "Educational Research, Development, Dissemination, and Improvement Act of 1994" (the "Act") (20 U.S.C. 6001 et seq.). The Act restructured the Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI) and endowed it with a broad mandate to conduct an array of research, development, dissemination, and improvement activities aimed at strengthening the education of all students. The Act established the following five national research institutes within OERI:

- (1) The National Institute on Student Achievement, Curriculum, and Assessment;
- (2) The National Institute on the Education of At-Risk Students;
- (3) The National Institute on Educational Governance, Finance, Policymaking, and Management;
- (4) The National Institute on Early Childhood Development and Education;

(5) The National Institute on Postsecondary Education, Libraries, and Lifelong Learning.

The Act authorized the Assistant Secretary to conduct research, development, demonstration, and evaluation activities to carry out the purposes for which these Institutes were established.

The Act also required the establishment of a National Educational Research Policy and Priorities Board (the "Board") to work collaboratively with the Assistant Secretary to identify priorities to guide the work of OERI.

#### Statutory Requirements

The legislation directed the Assistant Secretary to work collaboratively with the Board to develop a research priorities plan that will recommend priorities for the investment of resources over the next five-, ten-, and fifteen-year periods, including as priorities those areas of inquiry in which further research, development and dissemination—

(a) is necessary to attain the National Education Goals;

(b) promises to yield the greatest practical benefits to teachers and other educators in terms of improving education; and

(c) will not be undertaken in sufficient scope or intensity by the other Federal and non-Federal entities engaged in Education research and development.

#### Invitation To Comment

Interested persons are invited to submit comments including suggestions on how to strengthen this document. The Department is especially interested in hearing what commenters believe to be the most important and promising educational research opportunities for the next five, ten and fifteen years.

All comments submitted in response to this proposed plan will be available for public inspection, during and after the comment period, in Room 510, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., Washington, DC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday of each week except Federal holidays.

Dated: May 30, 1996.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number does not apply)

Sharon P. Robinson,

*Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement.*

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