

other interested organizations and individuals.

Additional Information: This emergency notice is needed to provide funds in a timely manner this fiscal year and to give grantees ample time to complete the application. The normal 60-day comment period for discretionary grants would not be feasible as it would result in a significant delay in awarding grants.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profits; Not-for-profit institutions, State, local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Burden:*

Responses: 500.

Burden Hours: 9,000.

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Recognition of Accrediting Agencies, State Agencies for Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education, and State Agencies for Approval of Nurse Education

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Request for Comments on Agencies applying to the Secretary for Renewed Recognition.

**DATES:** Commenters should submit their written comments by February 8, 1999, to the address below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Karen W. Kershenstein, Director, Accreditation and Eligibility Determination Division, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 3915 ROB-3, Washington, DC 20202-5244, telephone: (202) 708-7417. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUBMISSION OF THIRD-PARTY COMMENTS:**

The Secretary of Education recognizes, as reliable authorities as to the quality of education offered by institutions or programs within their scope, accrediting agencies and State approval agencies for public postsecondary vocational education and nurse education that meet certain criteria for recognition. The purpose of this notice is to invite interested third parties to present written comments on the agencies listed in this notice that have applied for continued recognition. A subsequent **Federal Register** notice will announce the meeting and invite individuals and/or groups to submit requests for oral presentation before the National

Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (the "Advisory Committee") on the agencies being reviewed. That notice, however, does not constitute another call for written comment. This notice is the only call for written comment.

All comments received in response to this notice will be reviewed by Department staff as part of its evaluation of the agencies' compliance with the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition. In order for Department staff to give full consideration to the comments received and to address them in the staff analyses that will be presented to the Advisory Committee at its May 1999 meeting, the comments must arrive at the address listed above not later than February 8, 1999, with the exception of the comments for the American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, for which the deadline for receiving comments is March 1, 1999 since the agency's interim report is not due into the Department until February 15, 1999. Comments received after the specified deadlines will be reviewed by Department staff, which will take action, as appropriate, either before or after the meeting, should the comments suggest that an accrediting agency is not acting in accordance with the Secretary's Criteria for Recognition.

All comments must relate to the Secretary's Criteria for the Recognition of Accrediting Agencies. Comments pertaining to agencies whose interim reports will be reviewed must be restricted to the concerns raised in the Secretary's letter for which the report is requested.

The Advisory Committee advises the Secretary of Education on the recognition of accrediting agencies and State approval agencies. The Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet May 11-13, 1999 in Washington, DC. All written comments in response to this notice that are received by the Department by the specified deadlines will be considered by both the Advisory Committee and the Secretary. Comments received after the specified deadlines, as indicated previously, will be reviewed by Department staff, which will take follow-up action, as appropriate, either before or after the meeting. Commenters whose comments are received after the deadline will be notified by staff of the disposition of those comments.

The following agencies will be reviewed during the May 1999 meeting of the Advisory Committee:

### Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies

#### *Petitions for Renewal of Recognition—*

1. Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, Commission on Accrediting (Current scope of recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accredited Status") of freestanding institutions, as well as programs affiliated with larger institutions, that offer graduate professional education for ministry and graduate study of theology).

2. Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (requested scope of recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of institutions and graduate programs in Naturopathy that lead to the degree of Doctor of Naturopathy (N.D.) or Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine (N.M.D.).

3. Montessori Accreditation Council for Teacher Education, Commission on Accreditation (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation of Montessori teacher education institutions and programs evaluated by the following review Committees: The American Montessori Society Review Committee and the Independent Review Committee).

4. Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Secondary Schools (requested scope of recognition: The accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of public vocational/technical schools offering non-degree, postsecondary education in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands).

5. Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Schools (requested scope of recognition: the accreditation and preaccreditation ("Candidate for Accreditation") of adult and postsecondary schools that offer programs below the degree level in California, Hawaii, the United States territories of Guam and American Samoa, the Republic of Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands).

*Interim Reports* (An interim report is a follow-up report on an accrediting agency's compliance with specific criteria for recognition that was requested by the Secretary when the Secretary granted renewed recognition to the Agency)—

1. American Bar Association, Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.

2. Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.
3. Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training.
4. American Optometric Association, Council on Optometric Education.
5. Council on Occupational Education.
6. National Association of Schools of Art and Design, Commission on Accreditation.
7. National Association of Schools of Dance, Commission on Accreditation.
8. National Association of Schools of Music, Commission on Accreditation, Commission on Non-Degree-Granting Accreditation, Commission on Community/Junior College Accreditation.
9. National Association of Schools of Theatre, Commission on Accreditation.
10. North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.
11. New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Technical and Career Institutions.
12. New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.
13. Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Commission on Colleges.
14. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges.
15. Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

**State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education**

*Petitions for Renewal of Recognition*

1. Missouri State Board of Education.

**State Agencies Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education**

*Petitions for Renewal of Recognition*

1. Missouri State Board of Nursing.
2. New Hampshire Board of Nursing.

**Public Inspection of Petitions and Third-Party Comments**

All petitions and interim reports, and those third-party comments received in advance of the meeting, will be available for public inspection in copying at the U.S. Department of Education, ROB-3, Room 3915, 7th and D Streets, SW, Washington, DC 20202-5244, telephone (202) 708-7417 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, until April 15, 1999. They will be available again after the May 11-13 Advisory Committee meeting. It is preferred that an appointment be made

in advance of such inspection or copying.

**Greg Woods,**

*Chief Operating Officer Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs.*

[FR Doc. 98-34101 Filed 12-23-98; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Office of Fossil Energy**

[Docket No. FE C&E 98-10—Certification Notice—165]

**The City of Tallahassee; Notice of Filing of Coal Capability Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act**

**AGENCY:** Office of Fossil Energy Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of filing.

**SUMMARY:** On December 2, 1998, the City of Tallahassee submitted a coal capability self-certification pursuant to section 201 of the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978, as amended.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of self-certification filings are available for public inspection, upon request, in the Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex, Fossil Energy, Room 4G-039, FE-27, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ellen Russell at (202) 586-9624.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Title II of the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 (FUA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 8301 *et seq.*), provides that no new baseload electric powerplant may be constructed or operated without the capability to use coal or another alternate fuel as a primary energy source. In order to meet the requirement of coal capability, the owner or operator of such facilities proposing to use natural gas or petroleum as its primary energy source shall certify, pursuant to FUA section 201(d), to the Secretary of Energy prior to construction, or prior to operation as a base load powerplant, that such powerplant has the capability to use coal or another alternate fuel. Such certification establishes compliance with section 201(a) as of the date filed with the Department of Energy. The Secretary is required to publish a notice in the **Federal Register** that a certification has been filed. The following owner/operator of the proposed new baseload powerplant has filed a self-certification in accordance with section 201(d).

*Owner:* City of Tallahassee.

*Operator:* City of Tallahassee.

*Location:* City of St. Marks, Florida.

*Plant Configuration:* Base load combined-cycle generating facility (combustion turbine/generator, unfired heat recovery steam generator and a steam turbine/generator).

*Capacity:* 247 megawatts.

*Fuel:* Natural gas.

*Purchasing Entities:* The plant will be directly interconnected with the City of Tallahassee's electric system. The net electricity generated by the Plant will be utilized by the City of Tallahassee.

*In-Service Date:* May 15, 2000.

Issued in Washington, DC, December 17, 1998.

**Anthony J. Como,**

*Manager, Electric Power Regulation, Office of Coal & Power Im/Ex, Office of Coal & Power Systems, Office of Fossil Energy.*

[FR Doc. 98-34146 Filed 12-23-98; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Hanford Site**

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB), Hanford Site.

**DATES:**

Thursday, February 11, 1999: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Friday, February 12, 1999: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Cavanaugh's, 1101 N. Columbia Center Blvd., Kennewick, WA 99336, ph: 509-783-0611; fax: 509-735-3087.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Gail McClure, Public Involvement Program Manager, Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, P.O. Box 550 (A7-75), Richland, WA, 99352; Ph: (509) 373-5647; Fax: (509) 376-1563.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Purpose of the Board:* The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

*Tentative Agenda*

The Board will receive information on and discuss issues related to the Office of River Protection; the Interim Stabilization Consent Decree; the Plutonium Finishing Plant; and the