

Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13130, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (301/713-2289); and

Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213 (562/980-4001).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Ruth Johnson or Simona Roberts, 301/713-2289.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The subject permit is requested under the authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA; 16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) and the Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals (50 CFR part 216).

The applicant proposes to import from Mexico whole blood taken from California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*) to test two hypotheses: First, *Leptospira interrogans pomona* is not present in areas inhabited by sea lions in the Sea of Cortez population; Second, *L. interrogans* is present in the area, yet sea lions in the Sea of Cortez populations are unable to produce an immune response to *L. interrogans pomona*.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), an initial determination has been made that the activity proposed is categorically excluded from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement.

Written comments or requests for a public hearing on this application should be mailed to the Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, F/PR1, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS, 1315 East-West Highway, Room 13705, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Those individuals requesting a hearing should set forth the specific reasons why a hearing on this particular request would be appropriate.

Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at (301) 713-0376, provided the facsimile is confirmed by hard copy submitted by mail and postmarked no later than the closing date of the comment period. Please note that comments will not be accepted by e-mail or by other electronic media.

Concurrent with the publication of this notice in the Federal Register, NMFS is forwarding copies of this application to the Marine Mammal Commission and its Committee of Scientific Advisors.

Dated: October 4, 2000.

Ann D. Terbush,

Chief, Permits and Documentation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 00-26085 Filed 10-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The 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 December 11, 2000.

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 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: October 4, 2000.

John Tressler,

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

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Type of Review: New.

Title: Evaluation of Independent Programs.

Frequency: One time.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 1,003.

Burden Hours: 639

Abstract: The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS), U.S. Department of Education, has funded a comprehensive two-year evaluation of Parts B and C of the Centers for Independent Living (CIL) program. CIL programs promote a philosophy of independent living—consumer control, peer support, self-help, self-determination, equal access, and individual and system advocacy—the goal is to maximize the leadership, empowerment, independence, and productivity of individuals with disabilities, and enhance the integration and full inclusion of individuals with disabilities into the mainstream of American society. This evaluation will include questionnaire surveys of all CIL directors and a nationally representative sample of current and former consumers of CIL services. The study will examine two major areas: (1) consumer satisfaction and outcomes of services, and (2) systems advocacy and change. The results of the study will be used to complement Section 704 Annual Performance Report data; support RSA Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) reporting requirements; assist CILs to identify successful service and advocacy strategies; and inform advocates and policy makers about the Independent Living Programs.

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 Sheila Carey at (202) 708-9915 or via her internet address Sheila_Carey@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. 00-25994 Filed 10-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of renewal.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to section 14(a)(2)(A) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, App. 2, and section 101-6.1015(a), title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, and following consultation with the Committee Management Secretariat, General Services Administration, notice is hereby given that the Nuclear Energy Research Advisory Committee has been renewed for a two-year period beginning October 2, 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Rachel M. Samuel at (202) 586-3279.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Committee will continue to provide advice to the Director, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology, on long-term planning and priorities in the national nuclear energy research and development program. The Secretary of Energy has determined that renewal of the Committee is essential to the conduct of the Department's business and in the public interest in the connection with the performance of duties imposed upon the Department of Energy by law. The Committee will continue to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law Number 92-463), section 624 of the Department of Energy Act (Public Law Number 95-91), the General Services Administration Final Rule on Federal Advisory Committee Management, and other directives and instructions issued in implementation of those acts.

Issued in Washington D.C. on October 2, 2000.

James N. Solit,

Advisory Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 00-25921 Filed 10-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Idaho Operations Office; Notice of availability of solicitation for Awards of Financial Assistance

AGENCY: Idaho Operations Office, DOE.

ACTION: Notice of availability of solicitation, University Reactor Instrumentation (URI) Program.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, is soliciting applications for special research grant awards that will upgrade and improve U.S. nuclear research and training reactors. It is anticipated that on October 4, 2000, a full text for Solicitation Number DE-PS07-01ID14012 for the 2001 URI Program will be made available on the Internet at URL address: <http://www.id.doe.gov/doeid/psd/proc-div.html>. The deadline for receipt of applications will be on December 5, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Applications should be submitted to: U.S. Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office, c/o Marie Warnick, P.O. Box 1625, Mail Stop 3860, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415-3860.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Connie Osborne, Contract Specialist at osbornch@id.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The solicitation will be issued in accordance with 10 CFR Part 600.6(b), eligibility for awards under this program will be restricted to U.S. colleges and universities having a duly licensed, operating nuclear research or training reactor because the purpose of the University Reactor Instrumentation (URI) program is to upgrade and improve the U.S. university nuclear research and training reactors and to contribute to strengthening the academic community's nuclear engineering infrastructure.

The statutory authority for this program is Public Law 95-91.

Issued in Idaho Falls on October 4, 2000.

R. Jeffrey Hoyles,

Director, Procurement Services Division.

[FR Doc. 00-26026 Filed 10-10-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6450-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Secretary of Energy Advisory Board; Notice of Open Meeting

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the fourth in a series of meetings of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board's Panel on Emerging Technological

Alternatives to Incineration. The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770), requires that agencies publish these notices in the **Federal Register** to allow for public participation.

Name: Secretary of Energy Advisory Board—Panel on Emerging Technological Alternatives to Incineration.

DATES: October 11, 2000, 7:30am—Noon MST.

ADDRESSES: La Quinta Inn & Suites, 6801 Tower Road, Denver, Colorado 80249. Phone—303-371-0888, Fax—303-371-0807.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Louise Wagner, Executive Director, or Francesca McCann, Staff Director, Office of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board (AB-1), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585, (202) 586-7092 or (202) 586-6279 (fax).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board's Panel on Emerging Technological Alternatives to Incineration is to provide independent external advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board on emerging technological alternatives to incineration for the treatment of mixed waste for the Department of Energy. The Panel will focus on the evaluation of emerging non-incineration technologies for the treatment of low-level, alpha low-level and transuranic wastes containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other hazardous constituents. Waste categories to be addressed include inorganic homogeneous solids, organic homogeneous solids, and soils. The Panel will also evaluate whether the emerging non-incineration technologies could be implemented in a manner that would allow the Department of Energy to comply with all legal requirements, including those contained in the Settlement Agreement and Consent Order signed by the State of Idaho, Department of Energy, and the U.S. Navy in October 1995.

Tentative Agenda

The agenda for the October 11 meeting has not been finalized. However, the meeting will include panel discussion and a presentation on R&D Plans for Tru Mixed Waste and an overview of the responses to the published Request for Information. Members of the Public wishing to comment on issues before the Panel on Emerging Technological Alternatives to Incineration will have an opportunity to