SUMMARY: The U.S. Geological Survey is requesting renewal of an existing information collection that received emergency clearance on August 8, 2009. We will ask the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve the information collections (IC) described below. As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA) and as part of our continued effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, we invite the general public and other federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on this IC. We may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before January 15, 2010.

ADDRESSES: Send your comments on this information collection directly to Phadrea Ponds, Information Collections Clearance Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 2150–C Center Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (mail); (970) 226–9230 (fax); or FAX: *pponds@usgs.gov* (e-mail). Use Information Collection Number 1028–0051 in the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To request additional information please contact William C. Burton at (703) 648–6904 or by mail at U.S. Geological Survey, 926A National Center, Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston, VA 20192.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

During FY09 and FY10, the Volcano Hazards Program (VHP) will provide funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for improvement of the volcano and other monitoring systems and other monitoring-related activities that contribute to mitigation of volcano hazards. This notice concerns the collection of information that is sufficient and relevant to evaluate and select proposals for funding under the VHP. We will accept proposals from State geological surveys and academic institutions requesting funds to assist in the monitoring of active volcanoes and to conduct volcano-related research. Financial assistance will be awarded on a competitive basis following the evaluation and ranking of State and academic proposals. VHP proposals will be reviewed by a peer panel of six (6) members. Five (5) members will be Department of the Interior representatives; and one (1) member will be an external representative. To submit a proposal, you must follow the written guideline (that will be made available at *http://www.Grants.gov*) and complete a project narrative. The application must be submitted via Grants.gov. Grant recipients must complete a final technical report at the end of the project period. Narrative and report guidance is available through *http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/* and at *http://www.Grants.gov.*

II. Data

OMB Control Number: 1028–0090.

Title: Volcano Hazards Program (VHP).

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Respondent Obligation: Required to receive benefits.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.

Description of Respondents: State Geological Surveys and academic institutions.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 20 applications and 12 final reports.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping ''Hour'' Burden: 796 hours. We expect to receive approximately 20 applications. It will take each applicant approximately 35 hours to complete the narrative and present supporting documents. This includes the time for project conception and development, proposal writing, reviewing, and submitting the proposal application through Grants.gov (totaling 700 burden hours). We anticipate awarding 12 grants per year. The award recipients must submit a final report at the end of the project. We estimate that it will take approximately 8 hours to complete the requirement for that report (totaling 96 hours).

Estimated Reporting and Recordkeeping ''Non-Hour Cost'' Burden: There are no ''non-hour cost'' burdens associated with this collection of information.

III. Request for Comments

We are soliciting comments as to: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) how to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) how to minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please note that the comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask OMB in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that it will be done. To comply with the public process, we publish this **Federal Register** notice announcing that we will submit this ICR to OMB for approval. The notice provided the required 60 day public comment period.

Dated: November 5, 2009.

Suzette Kimball,

Associate Director for Geology.

[FR Doc. E9–27421 Filed 11–13–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4311–AM–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Geological Survey

Agency Information Collection Activity

AGENCY: United States Geological Survey (USGS).

ACTION: Notice of a new information collection.

SUMMARY: To comply with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), we are notifying the public that we have submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a new information collection request (ICR) for approval of the paperwork requirements for the National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR)–USGS competitive grant program conducted in conjunction with the State Water Resources Research Institutes.

DATES: You must submit comments on or before December 16, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Please submit comments on this information collection directly to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention: Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior, via e-mail [*OIRA_DOCKET@omb.eop.gov*] or fax (202) 395–5806; and identify your submission as 1028–NEW (NIWR). Please also submit a copy of your comments to Phadrea Ponds, USGS Information Collection Clearance Officer, 2150–C Center Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (mail); (970) 226–9230 (fax); or *pponds@usgs.gov* (e-mail). Please reference Information Collection 1028–NEW, NIWR in the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John E. Schefter, Chief Office of External Research, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 424, Reston, Virginia 20192 (mail) at (703) 648–6800 (Phone); or *schefter@usgs.gov* (e-mail).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The NIWR–USGS National Competitive Grant Program issues an annual call for proposals to support research on water problems and issues of a regional or interstate nature beyond those of concern only to a single state and which relate to specific program priorities identified jointly by the USGS and the state water resources research institutes authorized by the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended (42 U.S.C. 10301 *et seq.*). Any investigator at an accredited institution of higher learning in the United States is eligible to apply for a grant through a water research institute or center established under the provisions of the Act. Proposals involving substantial collaboration between the USGS and university scientists are encouraged. Proposals may be for projects of 1 to 3 years in duration and may request up to $250,000 in federal funds. Successful applicants must match each dollar of the federal grant with one dollar from nonfederal sources. This program is authorized by the Water Resources Research Act of 1984, as amended (42 U.S.C. 10303(g)). The membership of the National Institutes for Water Resources consists solely of the State Water Resources Research Institutes. NIWR cooperates with the USGS in the identification of the research priorities and the solicitation and review of the proposals submitted to the NIWR–USGS National Competitive Grant Program.

II. Data

OMB Control Number: 1028–NEW.

Title: NIWR–USGS National Competitive Grant Program.

Respondent Obligation: Voluntary, necessary to obtain benefits.

Frequency of Collection: Annually.

Description of Respondents: Eligible applicants to this program are restricted to the 54 land grant universities housing the state water resources research institutes.

Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 72. We expect to receive approximately 65 applications and award 7 grants per year.

Annual Burden Hours: 3,984 hours. We expect to receive approximately 65 applications. It will take each applicant approximately 60 hours to complete the narrative and supporting documents. This includes the time for project conception and development, proposal writing, reviewing, and submitting the proposal application through Grants.gov (totaling 3,900 burden hours). We anticipate awarding 7 grants per year. The award recipients must submit a final report at the end of the project. We estimate that it will take approximately 12 hours to complete the requirement for that report (totaling 84 hours).

Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping ''Non-Hour Cost'': We have not identified any ''non-hour cost'' burdens associated with this collection of information.

III. Request for Comments

On October 7, 2008, we published a **Federal Register** notice (73 FR 51645) announcing that we would submit this information collection to OMB for approval. The notice provided a 60-day comment period ending on December 7, 2008. We did not receive any comments in response to that notice.

We again invite comments concerning this ICR on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the agency to perform its duties, including whether the information is useful; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: November 9, 2009.

John E. Schefter,

Water Resources Research Act Program Coordinator.

[FR Doc. E9–27422 Filed 11–13–09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4311–AM–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

Notice of Availability of the Proposed Notice of Sale (NOS) for Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Lease Sale 213 in the Central Planning Area (CPA) in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM)

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability of the proposed NOS for proposed Sale 213.

SUMMARY: The MMS announces the availability of the proposed NOS for proposed Sale 213 in the CPA. This Notice is published pursuant to 30 CFR 256.29(c) as a matter of information to the public. With regard to oil and gas leasing on the OCS, the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to section 19 of the OCS Lands Act, provides the affected states the opportunity to review the proposed Notice. The proposed Notice sets forth the proposed terms and conditions of the sale, including minimum bids, royalty rates, and rentals.

DATES: Comments on the size, timing, or location of proposed Sale 213 are due from the affected states within 60 days following their receipt of the proposed Notice. The final NOS will be published in the **Federal Register** at least 30 days prior to the date of bid opening. Bid opening is currently scheduled for March 17, 2010.

Please address any comments or questions related to the proposed changes to the lease terms as presented below to Dr. Marshall Rose, MMS, Chief, Economics Division, at (703) 787–1536 or *marshall.rose@mms.gov* within 30 days.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The MMS will use the recently revised Form MMS–2005 (October 2009) to convey leases. The form is available on the Internet at *http://www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/mmsforms/FormMMS-2005.pdf*.

The proposed NOS for Sale 213 and a ''Proposed Notice of Sale Package'' containing information essential to potential bidders may be obtained from the Public Information Unit, Gulf of Mexico Region, Minerals Management Service, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123–2394, Telephone: (504) 736–2519.

The MMS is accepting comments on the proposed revisions of the initial lease terms for blocks in water depths of 400 to less than 800 meters and 800 meters to less than 1600 meters. The proposed 5+3 term in 400 to less than 800 meters supersedes and replaces the previous 8-year lease term provisions for these water depths as provided by regulations at 30 CFR 256.37(a)(3) where commencement of an exploratory well is required within the first 5 years of the initial 8-year term to avoid lease cancellation. The 10-year initial lease term in 800 to less than 1600 meters is proposed to be changed to a 7-year initial lease term (commencement of an exploratory well within the initial