We reference the regulations outlining the terms and conditions of an award in the Applicable Regulations section of this notice and include these and other specific conditions in the GAN. The GAN also incorporates your approved application as part of your binding commitments under the grant.

3. Reporting: At the end of your project period, you must submit a final performance report, including financial information, as directed by the Secretary. If you receive a multi-year award, you must submit an annual performance report that provides the most current performance and financial expenditure information as directed by the Secretary under 34 CFR 75.118. The Secretary may also require more frequent performance reports under 34 CFR 75.720(c). For specific requirements on reporting, please go to http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/appforms/appforms.html.

4. Performance Measures: The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 directs Federal departments and agencies to improve the effectiveness of programs by engaging in strategic planning, setting outcome-related goals for programs, and measuring program results against those goals.

The goal of the Training of Interpreters for Individuals Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Individuals Who Are Deaf-Blind program is to establish interpreter training programs or to assist ongoing training programs to train a sufficient number of qualified interpreters in order to meet the communications needs of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing and individuals who are deaf-blind.

As required by the absolute priority, grantees must develop and implement quality indicators and measure their performance against these indicators. In addition, RSA will use the following indicators for each of the Regional Interpreter Education Centers for Training of Interpreters for Individuals Who Are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and Individuals Who Are Deaf-Blind:

- A listing of all formal relationships with Local Partner Networks across the region.
- The percentage of interpreters at all skill levels receiving educational opportunities by the Regional Interpreter Center who successfully completed those opportunities as demonstrated through pre-and post-activities assessments, the development of portfolios, the completion of mentoring goals, the attainment of interpreter certification, etc.
- The degree to which the project’s activities have contributed to changed practices and improved the quality of interpreters.
- The degree to which the project’s activities have served each State within its designated geographic region.

Each Regional Center must report annually to RSA on these indicators through its annual performance report.

VII. Agency Contact

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Traci DiMartini, U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., room 5027, PCP, Washington, DC. 20202–2800. Telephone: (202) 245–6425 or by e-mail: Traci.Dimartini@ed.gov.

If you use a TDD, call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

VIII. Other Information

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document and a copy of the application package in an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 5075, PCP, Washington, DC. 20202–2550. Telephone: (202) 245–7363. If you use a TDD, call the FRS, toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

Electronic Access to This Document: You can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister. To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.


Dated: June 2, 2010.
Alexa Posny,
Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitation Services.
[FR Doc. 2010–13569 Filed 6–4–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Comprehensive Centers Program

AGENCY: Office of Elementary and Secondary Education.

ACTION: Notice of waivers for the Comprehensive Centers program and funding of continuation grants.

SUMMARY: The Secretary waives the requirements in 34 CFR 75.250 and 75.261(c)(2) of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) that, respectively, generally prohibit project periods exceeding five years and project period extensions involving the obligation of additional Federal funds. The waivers enable the 21 current grantees under the Comprehensive Centers program to continue to receive Federal funding beyond the five-year limitation in 34 CFR 75.250.

DATES: These waivers are effective June 7, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Frances Walker, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3W113, Washington, DC 20202–5970. Telephone: (202) 205–9190 or by e-mail: fran.walter@ed.gov.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under the Comprehensive Centers program, the Department supports grants to operate regional technical assistance centers and national content centers as authorized by sections 203 through 207 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act of 2002 (ETAA) (20 U.S.C. 9602–9606). The purpose of these centers is to provide technical assistance primarily to States as States work to help local educational agencies (LEAs) and schools to close achievement gaps in core content areas and raise student achievement in schools, and especially to help LEAs and schools to implement the school improvement provisions under section 1116 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) in schools in need of improvement, as defined by section 1116(b) of the ESEA.

Eligible applicants for Comprehensive Centers grants are research organizations, institutions, agencies, institutions of higher education, partnerships among such entities, or individuals, with demonstrated ability or capacity to carry out the activities described in the notice inviting applications published in the Federal Register on June 3, 2005 (70 FR 53283) and corrected in the Federal Register on June 20, 2005 (70 FR 35415).

On March 18, 2010, we published a notice in the Federal Register (75 FR 13110) proposing waivers of 34 CFR 75.250 and 34 CFR 75.261(c)(2) of EDGAR in order to give early notice of
the possibility that additional years of funding under the Comprehensive Centers program may be available for current grantees through continuation awards. As outlined in that notice, it would not be in the public interest to hold new competitions under the Comprehensive Centers program because of the pending reauthorization of the ESEA and the ETAA, and the fact that the primary work of the Comprehensive Centers is to help States, LEAs, and schools implement key school improvement provisions of the ESEA. In addition, it would be contrary to the public interest to have a lapse in Comprehensive Center services pending these reauthorizations. The comments we received in response to the notice of proposed waivers were supportive of the Comprehensive Centers program and the proposed waivers.

For these reasons, the Secretary waives the requirement in 34 CFR 75.250, which prohibits project periods exceeding five years, and the requirement in 34 CFR 75.261(c)(2), which limits the extension of a project period if the extension involves the obligation of additional Federal funds. With these waivers: (1) Current Comprehensive Centers grantees will receive FY 2010 funds and continue to operate through FY 2011 and possibly beyond, and (2) we will not announce a new competition or make new awards under the Comprehensive Centers program in FY 2010.

Analysis of Comments and Changes

In response to the Secretary’s invitation in the March 18, 2010, notice of proposed waivers, two parties submitted comments regarding the proposed waivers. An analysis of the comments follows. Comment: One commenter identified specific support that a regional center and content center have provided in helping a State educational agency (SEA) to assist LEAs and schools in closing achievement gaps and raising student achievement, especially in those LEAs and schools in need of improvement and stated that the waivers would ensure that these important services can be continued without interruption.

Discussion: We note the importance of the support of the Comprehensive Centers program for school improvement initiatives and agree that it would be contrary to the public interest to have a lapse in these services.

Changes: None.

Comment: One commenter noted the important financial and programmatic contributions made by the Office of Special Education Programs within the Department’s Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) to the Comprehensive Centers. The commenter credited these contributions with creating more effective communication between the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE) and OSERS, reducing needless duplication of initiatives, and increasing integration of content expertise. Finally, the commenter urged the Department to continue promoting this shared oversight by involving OSERS leadership in deliberations about the future of the Comprehensive Centers program.

Discussion: We appreciate the commenter’s identification of the valuable contribution of OSERS leadership in supporting the Comprehensive Centers program, both financially and programmatically. OESE anticipates continuing this positive relationship by involving OSERS in discussions about the future of the program.

Changes: None.

These waivers of 34 CFR 75.250 and 75.261(c)(2) do not affect the applicability of the requirements in 34 CFR 75.253 (continuation of a multi-year project after the first budget period) to any current Comprehensive Centers grantee that receives a continuation award as a result of the waivers.

In addition, these waivers do not exempt current Comprehensive Centers grantees from the account closing provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1552(a) nor do they extend the availability of funds previously awarded to current Comprehensive Center grantees. As a result of 31 U.S.C. 1552(a), appropriations available for a limited period may be used for payment of valid obligations for only five years after the expiration of their period of availability for Federal obligation. After that time, the unexpended balance of those funds is canceled and returned to the U.S. Treasury Department and is unavailable for restoration for any purpose. These waivers do not change this requirement.

These waivers ensure that the important services provided by the current Comprehensive Centers grantees will be continued, as the Department works on reauthorization of the ESEA and ETAA and designs a Comprehensive Centers program that is aligned with the Department’s technical assistance priorities. During this interim period, the activities of the current Comprehensive Centers grantees will be modified to support these technical assistance priorities.

Waivers—Comprehensive Centers Program

The Secretary waives the requirements in 34 CFR 75.250 and 75.261(c)(2), which prohibit project periods exceeding five years and extensions of project periods that involve the obligation of additional Federal funds, for the current Comprehensive Centers grantees.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

The Secretary certifies that the waivers will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The small entities that will be affected by these waivers are:

(a) The FY 2005 grantees currently receiving Federal funds; and
(b) The entities that are eligible for an award under the Comprehensive Centers program (i.e., research organizations, institutions, agencies, institutions of higher education, partnerships among such entities, or individuals, with the demonstrated ability or capacity to carry out the activities described in the notice inviting applications published in the Federal Register on June 3, 2005 (70 FR 53283) and corrected in the Federal Register on June 20, 2005 (70 FR 35415)).

The Secretary certifies that these waivers will not have a significant economic impact on these entities because the waivers and the activities required to support the additional years of funding will not impose excessive regulatory burdens or require unnecessary Federal supervision. The waivers will impose minimal requirements to ensure the proper expenditure of program funds, including requirements that are standard for continuation awards.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

This notice of waivers does not contain any information collection requirements.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive Order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive Order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

Accessible Format: Individuals with disabilities can obtain this document in
an accessible format (e.g., braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Electronic Access to This Document
You can view this document, as well as all other documents of this Department published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister. To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html. (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.283B, Comprehensive Centers Program)


Dated: June 2, 2010.

Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana, Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2010–13571 Filed 6–4–10; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

American Electric Power Service Corporation’s Mountaineer Commercial Scale Carbon Capture and Storage Project: Mason County, WV; Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Potential Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Intent and Notice of Potential Floodplain and Wetlands Involvement.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) NEPA regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and DOE’s NEPA implementing procedures (10 CFR Part 1021), to assess the potential environmental impacts of providing financial assistance for the construction and operation of a project proposed by American Electric Power Service Corporation (AEP). DOE selected this project for an award of financial assistance through a competitive process under the Clean Coal Power Initiative (CCPI) Program. AEP’s Mountaineer Commercial Scale Carbon Capture and Storage Project (Mountaineer CCS II Project) would construct a commercial scale carbon dioxide (CO₂) capture and storage (CCS) system at AEP’s existing Mountaineer Power Plant and other AEP owned properties located near New Haven, West Virginia.

For the Mountaineer CCS II Project, AEP would design, construct, and operate a CCS facility using Alstom’s chilled ammonia process that would capture approximately 1.5 million metric tons annually of CO₂ from a 235-megawatt (MWe) flue gas slip stream taken from the 1,300 MWe Mountaineer Plant. The captured CO₂ would be treated, compressed, and transported by pipeline to proposed injection site(s) on AEP properties within an estimated 12 miles of the Mountaineer Plant where it would be injected into one or more geologic formations approximately 1.5 miles below ground. The project would remove up to 90 percent of the CO₂ from the 235–MWe slip stream and would demonstrate a commercial-scale deployment of the chilled ammonia process for CO₂ capture and sequestration of CO₂ in a saline formation. DOE selected this project for an award of financial assistance through a competitive process under Round 3 (second selection phase) of the CCPI Program.

The EIS will inform DOE’s decision on whether to provide financial assistance to AEP for the Mountaineer CCS II Project. DOE proposes to provide AEP with up to $334 million of the overall project cost, which would constitute about 50 percent of the estimated total development cost, 50 percent of the capital cost of the project and 50 percent of the operational cost during the 3-year and 10-month demonstration period. The total project cost, including both DOE’s and AEP’s shares, is approximately $668 million (in 2010 dollars). The project would further a specific objective of Round 3 of the CCPI program by demonstrating advanced coal-based technologies that capture and sequester, or put to beneficial use, CO₂ emissions from coal-fired power plants.

The purposes of this Notice of Intent (NOI) are to: (1) Inform the public about DOE’s proposed action and AEP’s proposed project; (2) announce the public scoping meeting; (3) solicit comments for DOE’s consideration regarding the scope and content of the EIS; (4) invite those agencies with jurisdiction by law or special expertise to be cooperating agencies in preparation of the EIS; and (5) provide notice that the proposed project may involve potential impacts to floodplains and wetlands.

DOE does not have regulatory jurisdiction over the Mountaineer CCS II Project, and its decisions are limited to whether and under what circumstances it would provide financial assistance to the project. As part of the EIS process, DOE will consult with interested Native American Tribes and Federal, state, regional, and local agencies.

DATES: DOE invites comments on the proposed scope and content of the EIS from all interested parties. Comments must be received within 30 days after publication of this NOI in the Federal Register to ensure consideration. In addition to receiving comments in writing and by e-mail [See ADDRESSES below], DOE will conduct a public scoping meeting in which government agencies, private-sector organizations, and the general public are invited to present oral and written comments or suggestions with regard to DOE’s proposed action, alternatives, and potential impacts of AEP’s proposed project that DOE will consider in developing the EIS. The scoping meeting will be held at the New Haven Elementary School at 138 Mill Street in New Haven, West Virginia on Tuesday, June 22, 2010. Oral comments will be heard during the formal portion of the scoping meeting beginning at 7 p.m. [See Public Scoping Process]. The public is also invited to an informal session to learn more about the project and the proposed action at the same location beginning at 5 p.m. Various displays and other information about DOE’s proposed action and AEP’s Mountaineer CCS II Project will be available, and representatives from DOE and AEP will be present at the informal session to discuss the proposed project, the CCPI program, and the EIS process.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS and requests to participate in the public scoping meeting should be addressed to: Mr. Mark Lusk, U.S. Department of Energy, National Energy Technology Laboratory, 3610 Collins Ferry Road, P.O. Box 880, Morgantown, WV 26507–0880. Individuals and organizations who would like to provide oral or electronic comments should contact Mr. Lusk by postal mail at the above address; telephone (412–386–7435, or toll-free 1–877–812–1569); fax (304–285–4403); or electronic mail (Mountaineer.EIS0445@netl.doe.gov).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information about this project, contact Mr. Mark Lusk, as